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SFRY Given Protest Note Over Border Deaths

AU1009192791 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] On 10 September, Viktor Gaber, charge d'affaires ad interim of the SFRY Embassy in Tirana, was called to the Albanian Foreign Ministry, where he was handed a protest note about a criminal act perpetrated by forces of the Yugoslav Army.

The note points out that, at approximately 0830 on 9 September, border guards Sokol Rauf Agaci, Tomorr Qemal Kullolli, and Artan Perik Doko, who mistakenly entered Yugoslav territory in the region of Pyramid D-21, were killed by forces of the Yugoslav Army. Although the border guards were clearly visible, a long volley of shots was fired at them at short range and without any kind of warning. They died instantly.

The circumstances in which the incident took place, as discovered by a group of experts on the spot, show that the Yugoslav border guards had every opportunity to avoid such an incident.

This criminal act runs counter to the aim and spirit of the agreement on measures to prevent and settle incidents on the Albanian-Yugoslav border, and it increases border tensions.

Immediately after the incident, increased military forces were observed on the Yugoslav border, deployed in battle formations and with weapons aimed at Albanian territory and sights trained on border guards and other persons.

At 1405 on the same day, there were shots into the air from Yugoslav territory in the direction of the Albanian experts who were waiting on Albanian territory to meet representatives of the Yugoslav local commission. This is an open provocation that runs counter to Article 2, Paragraph A of the aforementioned agreement.

The murder of the three Albanian soldiers is a continuation of earlier criminal acts perpetrated by the Yugoslav border forces in recent months.

Despite the protest to Yugoslavia through the note dated 19 July over the crime of the murder of the young man Ernest Tushe and the maltreatment of a number of other Albanian citizens, the Yugoslav border forces have committed three murders with firearms and have beaten one person to death. Haxhi Shaban Rizvani was killed on 30 July in Sector Four, 50 meters from the border, on the Yugoslav side. On the same day, Asllan Islam Biba died in Sector Five as a result of inhuman torture.

Hysen Sadik Islami was killed on 2 August in Sector Four, and Staf Abaz Hasa was killed on 20 August in Sector Seven.

Vigorously protesting the crimes perpetrated by the Yugoslav border forces, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs demands that the responsible Yugoslav authorities take measures to identify and punish the culprits of these barbarous murders, which run counter to the documents of the CSCE, the Helsinki Act, and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and are also against the spirit of the agreement to prevent and settle incidents on the state border between the two countries.

Macedonian Albanians Refused Border Entry

LD1009201291 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1851 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Ohrid, September 10 (TANJUG)—Around 300 Albanians, mostly of Macedonian origin, were turned back from the Blato border crossing with the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia by the Albanian border authorities on Monday, Albanian television said on Tuesday, as monitored in the Macedonian town of Ohrid.

The group had their passports on them but not the necessary visas. They believed that they could obtain them at the border crossing, which is near the Macedonian town of Debar.

They returned home after they were told that free crossing of the border was still being negotiated and that this question "is not yet settled in an agreement between Albania and the Republic of Macedonia," the broadcast said.

No incident was reported, as said.

Alia Discusses Aid Distribution With Ministers

AU1009154691 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1330 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Ramiz Alia, president of the Republic, met Defense Minister Perikli Teta and Home Trade Minister Agim Mero this morning. The ministers informed Alia about the measures taken for the reception of the emergency aid granted to Albania by Italy, its safe transportation to its destinations, and its fair distribution. The measures that have been taken will make it possible to avoid the incidents that previously occurred, when humanitarian aid was damaged, misused, and, in some cases, even stolen.

The president expressed his appreciation for the information provided by the members of the government and drew attention to the need to tighten the regime in the ports and to be more careful in transporting aid. He went on to say that this issue should provide experience in interministerial coordination and will train the Army in performing civil duties associated with aid distribution. In this connection, he ordered the creation of a special Army unit specializing in the reception and transportation of aid.

Minister Yzeiri Meets With Bulgaria's Danov

AU1009154991 Tirana ATA in English 0809 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 10 (ATA)—On September 6, 1991 the interior minister of the Republic of Bulgaria, Khristo Danov, received the minister of the public order of Albania, Bajram Yzeiri on his way back home after a working visit to Romania.

In the meeting the Bulgarian interior minister said he was pleased to establish contacts between the two departments and possibilities exist to exchange information and experience and expressed his desire to develop cooperation on problems of order and public tranquillity.

The Albanian minister of public order thanked for the reception and after briefing him with the development of democratic processes in Albania said that cooperation is necessary in the fields they talked about. He said that due to the increase of people's moves, cooperation between the two countries is indispensable and should not be spontaneous, but it must be programmed.

They exchanged views on cooperation in the field of preventing crimes, combat against organized criminality, drug trafficking and other problems. The Bulgarian minister gave a working lunch. Attending were secretary-in-chief of the Bulgarian Ministry of the Interior Lyudmil Marinchevski; the executive secretary, Todor Boyadzhiev; as well as the chief of the Foreign Sector of this Ministry, Ivan Shipkov.

Present was also Bashkim Rama, ambassador of the Republic of Albania in Bulgaria.

Adherence to Copyright Conventions Planned

AU1009143091 Tirana ATA in English 0928 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 10 (ATA)—Albania is the last European country not adhering to the World Organisation on the Protection of Intellectual Property and either to the Berne and Rome Conventions devoted particularly to protection of the writers' and artists' rights at national and international level, the newspaper "DRITA" writes. This was one of the main tasks set by the meeting on culture held on August 26, 1991 in Tirana.

In order to realise this task, a month ago the Ministry of Culture had put up the respective requests to the UNDP [United Nations Development Program] representatives in Tirana. The UNDP commitment led to the meeting of our minister of culture, Mr. Prec Zogaj, with the president of the Organisation for the Protection of Intellectual Property centered in Germany, Mr. Arpad Bogsch.

Minister Prec Zogaj stated that the meeting with Mr. Bogsch was very fruitful. He welcomed Albania's readiness to apply at home a law of European standards in defence of the copyright to adhere to the Berne and Rome contracts.

To this end by the end of this month, a mission of this organisation will come to Albania to help in setting up the necessary infrastructure in defence of copyright. This UN organisation undertook the qualification of our specialists to be involved in applying the requests of the law and conventions.

With the setting up of the infrastructure during the first ten days of October there is no hindrance to be admitted in the convention. We shall send to Geneva the full documentation and I hope that the Organisation for the Protection of Intellectual Property will admit us as member in the first meeting of the Steering Council, the minister said, the newspaper writes in conclusion.

Socialist Party Statement on Yugoslav Peace Talks

AU1009160391 Tirana ATA in English 0920 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 10 (ATA)—The newspaper "ZERI I POPULLIT" carries a statement of the Socialist Party [PS] of Albania on Albanians' exclusion from the Peace Conference of Yugoslavia, which says among the other things that the PS of Albania has constantly persisted in the fact that every solution to the Yugoslav crisis without the Albanians is temporary and incomplete and may lead Europe and particularly the Balkans to dangerous situations to the peace and security in this region. Just as the other political forces in Albania and the high state institutions of the Republic of Albania, it has raised the voice on the indispensability that the Albanians take part as equal partners in compliance with the rights defined in the existing Constitution of Yugoslavia, which guarantees Kosovo's constitutive legitimacy in the federation.

Exclusion of the Albanians from the debate on Yugoslavia's affairs is an erroneous and unjust act at the expense of the Albanian people. That is why we declare that it is necessary to admit immediately the legitimate representatives elected by the parliament of Kosovo and put an end to the manoeuvres to deprive it of its constitutional right to be represented in the peace conference for Yugoslavia and in every international agreement that has to do with the future of the federation.

Opposition Parties Cooperate With UITUA

AU1009160691 Tirana ATA in English 0924 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Tirana, September 10 (ATA)—The newspaper "ALTERNATIVA SD" carries the following communique which says:

Faced with the need to step up the rates for establishing full democracy in Albania as the only alternative to overcome the profound economic, political and social crisis in the country, a joint meeting was organized by the DP [Democratic Party], the RP [Republican Party], the SDP [Social Democratic Party], and the UITUA [Union of Independent Albanian Trade Unions].

Further coordination of the political activities among the DP, RP, and the SDP of Albania, as mere opposition parties whose aim has been clearly expressed in their joint statement, has started in the political life of Albania.

In the process of the coordination and extension of their acts, three opposition parties met with the Union of the Independent Trade Unions of Albania (UITUA) which have publicly declared their demands. In the meeting it was pointed that the stands of the three opposition parties and the UITUA converge with the most fundamental current political economic problems and their objective to go ahead faster towards genuine democracy in Albania.

The meeting valued the benefit of the coordination in the future too of the actions as an indispensable road in the struggle to uproot communism in Albania.

Democratic Party Urges Help for Countryside

AU1009195591 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] A statement by the Democratic Party's Managing Committee points out, among other things, that the Democratic Party, as the initiator of the privatization in agriculture that has now begun with the distribution of land, is watching the course of this reform with great concern. It is acting by all democratic means to ensure that the reform will be accomplished in time, and it is totally convinced that it will be completed with as little pain as possible.

Observing with special concern the confused situation in the countryside, the Democratic Party points out that there is a total lack of interest in helping peasants resume normal productive work and all the tasks of the season.

On this question, the Democratic Party believes that:

1. The National Stability Government must urgently and seriously analyze and give priority to the problems of the fall sowing.

2. The Agricultural Ministry must organize work to help all peasants till and sow their land. Tractor stations must help peasants plow, sow, and mechanically cultivate the land free of charge, until the peasants' produce reaches the markets.

3. Urgent measures must be taken to obtain seeds, chemical fertilizers, and pesticides according to requirements. They should be sent to the center of each village.

4. The Agricultural Bank must start at once to issue short-term and long-term credits to all producers, especially private producers.

5. Without wasting time, work must be organized to harvest, collect, and process seasonal agricultural produce.

6. Major irregularities in the harvest and storage of wheat have made solving the bread problem more difficult. Urgent measures are needed to supply rural areas with the necessary cereals.

7. Decisions and measures should be approved as soon as possible for reforms and changes in the administration of agricultural enterprises. Their situation is extremely serious, especially regarding animal feed.

8. In this campaign, technical resources must be used more than ever before to assist with the fall sowing and all the problems of the season. The Agricultural Ministry must mobilize specialists to cope with the acute problems of this period.

A tendency to back away from the problems of agriculture or to abandon the peasants at this most serious time for them is creating doubt and great confusion among the great masses of the population, which will have consequences not only today but also next year.

The tireless labor of our farmers must be properly appreciated. The Democratic Party, the statement continues, calls on the entire peasantry to help to accelerate the distribution of the land in a spirit of patriotism, in the sure and firm conviction that every related problem that still hangs fire will be quickly solved. The Democratic Party joins all political forces, organizations, and associations that are seriously contributing to the solution of this vital problem and calls on all of them, regardless of their political views and convictions, to put the problem of the countryside on the agenda today.

Legislature Ratifies Quayle-Vulkov Agreement

AU1009173291 Sofia BTA in English 1714 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Sofia, September 10 (BTA)—Today the Bulgarian Parliament ratified the agreement on encouraging investments between Bulgaria and the U.S.

The agreement was signed on June 7 by Mr. Viktor Vulkov, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs, and U.S. Vice President Dan Quayle, who was on a visit to Sofia.

Diplomatic Relations With Baltic States

AU1009192491 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 1900 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] On 10 September at the Bulgarian Embassy in Moscow, a declaration was signed on restoring Bulgaria's diplomatic relations with Estonia and Latvia and on establishing diplomatic relations with Lithuania.

The document points out that Bulgaria wishes to establish relations of cooperation and friendship with independent Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia. The relations will be at the embassy level.

The declaration was signed by Viktor Vulkov, Bulgarian minister of foreign affairs, and the leaders of the diplomatic missions of the three Baltic states.

Vulkov Comments on Baltics, Meets SFRY's Loncar

AU1009202291 Sofia BTA in English 1947 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow, September 10 (BTA corr.)—This evening Foreign Minister Viktor Vulkov signed protocols on the restoration of diplomatic relations between Bulgaria and the three Baltic republics together with the foreign minister of Lithuania—Mr. Algirdas Saudaras, of Latvia—Mr. Janus Jurkans, and of Estonia—Mr. Lenart Meri.

The documents stress the desire of the two countries to promote their relations on the basis of the operative international law and the CSCE documents.

Foreign Minister Vulkov said that Bulgaria was among the first countries to recognize the independence of the Baltic republics and to sign documents on the establishment of diplomatic relations with them. This comes to prove that together with the Baltic states Bulgaria is proceeding on the road of democracy which reveals possibilities for wide-ranging cooperation in the economic, political and cultural spheres.

Foreign Minister Vulkov, who is in Moscow for the third meeting of the Conference on the Human Dimensions, met Mr. Budimir Loncar, federal secretary for foreign affairs of Yugoslavia. The two sides discussed the situation in the Balkans and the prospects before the relations between Bulgaria and Yugoslavia.

Mr. Vulkov also had talks with the Irish foreign minister, Mr. Gerald Collins. Mr. Vulkov and Mr. Collins discussed issues of the bilateral relations. The Bulgarian foreign minister informed his Irish counterpart of the preparations for the elections in Bulgaria, of the progress of the economic reform, of Bulgaria's relations with neighbouring states and of the steps she has taken for a speedier association to the European political and economic institutions.

Paper Names Ex-Informers Among MP's, Ministers

AU1009085191 Sofia BTA in English 0829 GMT 10 Sep 91

[From BTA review of Sofia press in Bulgarian on 10 September]

[Text] Sofia, September 10 (BTA)—"DEMOKRATSIYA" carries a list of 20 MP's and ministers who are alleged to have been secret police informers. The list includes two deputy prime ministers: Viktor Vulkov (from the Bulgarian Agrarian Party-United) and Aleksandur Tomov (from the BSP [Bulgarian Socialist Party]); and Chairman of the National Assembly Academician Nikolay Todorov. Most of the names on the list belong to MP's of the BSP: Chavdar Kyuranov, Anzhel Vagenshtayn and the editor-in-chief of "DUMA," Stefan Prodev. Petko Simeonov, one of the founders of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS) and now leader of the Federation of Democracy Clubs, is also among them. Other names mentioned as informers of the political police are Klara Marinova (spokeswoman for the BSP), Dragomir Draganov, two more MP's of the BSP, and Rosen Karadimov, an independent MP.

The same daily also carries an article headlined: "Are Culpable State Security Structures Dismantled?" The author, Mr. Stoyan Merdzhanov, addresses questions to Minister of the Interior Khristo Danov.

Georgi Tambuev's serialized narrative about the secret service agents in the incumbent parliament continues in today's "TRUD." The daily has asked MP's and journalists for their opinion on the demands that the daily be suspended. Most of them insist that the series be continued.

Under the new Constitution the question whether a publication is permissible or impermissible should be solved by the judiciary, Mr. Ginyo Ganev, deputy chairman of parliament, explains in "OTECHESTVEN VESTNIK."

Socialists Hail Macedonian Referendum

AU1109111291 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Today the Supreme Council and the legislative faction of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP] adopted a statement concerning the events in Yugoslavia.

During the last few weeks and days, all Bulgarians, along with Europe and the Balkans, have been following with alarm the dramatic situation in our western neighbor, the statement reads.

Amid this atmosphere of severe conflicts between nationalities that is undoubtedly exerting an effect, the referendum of 8 September was prepared and held in the Republic of Macedonia.

The BSP regards the results of the referendum as a step toward achieving greater autonomy and independence for the republic. Any intervention with the aim of reshaping the existing borders is absolutely inadmissible.

The BSP stands for a peaceful settlement of the Yugoslav crisis and categorically opposes the raising of any kind of territorial claims against the Bulgarian state.

We support the promotion of peaceful, mutually advantageous bilateral and multilateral relations between the Bulgarian state and society with all countries and societies in the world, and with all countries in the region where we live. We are convinced that it is only through the joint efforts by all the states in the region that the Balkans can be transformed into an inalienable part of the future united Europe, the statement reads.

BSP Announces Election Candidate Lists

AU1009160591 Sofia BTA in English 1433 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Sofia, September 10 (BTA)—Mr. Aleksandur Lilov, leader of the Bulgarian Socialist Party (BSP), former Prime Minister Andrey Lukanov, former Deputy Prime Minister Georgi Pirinski, BSP spokesman Filip Bokov, Ms. Nora Ananieva, floorleader of the parliamentary faction of the BSP, and diplomat Elena Poptodorova top the election lists, it was announced at the regular news conference of the BSP.

Today's Plenum of the Supreme Council of the BSP is debating election lists. The plenum is attended by representatives of the municipal party councils. The leaders of the nine parties which formed an election alliance with the BSP are not taking part in the plenum. "The plenum is taking place behind close doors. If needed, new consultations will be held," BSP spokesman Filip Bokov announced. He said that the BSP has discussed with its allies the nomination of individual members of the parties which entered into a coalition with the BSP. They were placed both on lists guaranteeing their election and on others where it will be more difficult. Well-informed sources leaked information that the BSP and its allies are having arguments over the drawing up of the lists.

According to Mr. Bokov, local favouritism is the main shortcoming of the lists debated by the plenum. There are some radicals and ministers of the BSP on the lists but there should have been more of them, according to Ms. Petya Shopova of the Presidium of the BSP Supreme Council. According to a publication in today's "TRUD" many incumbent MP's of the BSP have been excluded from the preliminary versions of the lists. Radicals Boris Dimovski, Petur-Emil Mitev and Boyko Kostov declined to be put on the lists, others, such as economist Rumen Georgiev and artist Svetlin Rusev were "helped" to do this. "The so-called radicals stand no chance at all to make it into the new parliament as a separate group," "TRUD" writes, quoting a well-informed source.

The plenum will not discuss personnel problems. It is expected to approve a declaration on the referendum in Macedonia.

Negotiations are still in progress on the Association of the Constitutional Rights and Freedoms Political Club, which was registered as a party recently, with the coalition of the BSP, Mr. Bokov told the briefing.

BSP Protests Draping of Soviet War Memorial

AU1009103991 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] According to a report from our correspondent, the Soviet Army memorial in Pleven today was found draped with green fabric and a tricolor flag, which representatives of the Svoboda political coalition in Pleven had placed there during the night of 9 September.

In this connection, the Pleven Municipal Committee of the Bulgarian Socialist Party released an address that states:

On 9 September, the Pleven public realized that forces exist in the town that do not look kindly on those who defeated fascism. In the dead of night, people who are afraid to show their faces in the light of day once again demonstrated that the topic of fascism has not finally disappeared in Bulgaria.

The municipal administration adopted a decision to remove from the memorial the flags placed on it by the Svoboda coalition.

SDS Greets Results of Macedonian Referendum

AU1009195491 Sofia BTA in English 1925 GMT 10 Sep 91

["SDS Hails Freedom Loving Macedonia"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, September 10 (BTA)—In connection with the first results of the referendum in Macedonia, Mr. Mikhail Nedelchev, the spokesman of the Union of Democratic Forces (SDS), told the BTA:

"The SDS hails the free expression of the will of the Macedonian people in the referendum in the Republic of Macedonia. This is a natural choice the resolution of which cannot but move all Bulgarians.

"We hope that in the last decade of this century our country and the independent Republic of Macedonia will establish close contacts which would be a natural consequence of the ethnical, historical and cultural closeness of the populations on the two sides of the border.

"We also hope that, within the framework of united Europe, we will be able to restore the severed natural ties between the people on both sides of the border which is now dividing them," Mr. Mikhail Nedelchev said.

BSP Faction Leader Georgiev Interviewed

AU1009095391 Sofia DUMA in Bulgarian 4 Sep 91 pp 1-2

[Interview with Senior Scientific Fellow Rumen Georgiev, coordinator of the legislative group of the Europe Social Democratic Platform, by Mitko Bozhkov; place and date not given: "We Are Not Splitting the Party, but We Do Not Want To Remain Silent Any Longer"]

[Text] [Bozhkov] A few days ago, the Europe Social Democratic Platform announced that it is discontinuing its participation in the parliamentary faction of the Bulgarian Socialist Party [BSP]. What does this mean from a legal point of view?

[Georgiev] Before anything else, it means that the group becomes totally independent and autonomous when it comes to decisionmaking.

According to the Code on the Grand National Assembly's Activities, the legislative groups in it are formed not according to party but to political characteristics. With the development of the National Assembly's pluralistic structure, this criterion allows a greater number and a greater variety of political tasks to be embraced. This is the legal basis for the existence in our legislature, in one case, of a party with several legislative groups (such as ours), and, in another case, a legislative group that unites representatives of several parties (such as the Union of Democratic Forces-Movement).

Apart from this, the code considers the legislative groups as fundamental structures that can amalgamate into secondary structures—legislative unions. That is why, in reality, the BSP legislative group turned into the legislative faction of the BSP, with the rights of a union, right after the registration of the Group for National Agreement and the Europe Social Democratic Platform, and it has been functioning as such for almost nine months now.

Our group's discontinued participation in the faction ensures that any BSP faction positions in the future that we have not taken a stance on will not automatically be attributed to us. This will strengthen the significance of the coordinating activities between the group and faction leaderships, which is especially needed in today's complex situation.

[Bozhkov] In other words, present-day complexity requires greater organization. What about political motives?

[Georgiev] Our declaration naturally lays stress not on the organization but on the better political identification of individual members of the legislature and their development, which is also a prerequisite for better organization.

[Bozhkov] On the very day of the attempted coup in the Soviet Union, 19 August 1991, the Europe legislative group had already clearly and categorically condemned it. That is to say, in the group's declaration, the attempted coup was seen as "planned and carried out by the most reactionary forces in Soviet society." What actually made you one more time identify yourselves with a new declaration?

[Georgiev] Do not forget that declaring one's position does not call for just a statement but also for political action. If it is just a matter of a statement, then the Europe legislative group right back in the middle of June of this year, at the BSP Supreme Council's plenum, officially stated that, through the leadership's fault, the party's political renovation was seriously behind schedule and that "the BSP had not reassessed its relations with the CPSU, and this was necessary if the BSP wished to have a future." As a statement, this was also sufficient. However, political action was also needed because the discrepancy between the reaction of the people who elected us, the thousands of party members and sympathizers, and the reaction of some of the BSP Presidium to the events in the Soviet Union continues to be evident and a source of concern to people. Besides this, the BSP's legislative faction did not officially make a declaration on the events in the Soviet Union and, therefore, also did not differentiate itself from the chairman's ambiguous, wait-and-see stance.

This is what actually made us discontinue our participation in the BSP's legislative faction so as to ensure that, for the remainder of the time of this present National Assembly, we ourselves as members of the legislature bear responsibility for our political reactions.

[Bozhkov] A lot of people are concerned about whether the differences in the assessment of events in the Soviet Union by the different formations in the BSP and those of its individual leaders will influence the BSP's preparations and showing in the election.

[Georgiev] At present, the BSP is a conglomeration of people with different ideological viewpoints. For a democratic party, it is normal that differences of opinion find political expression. It is not the identification but the mystification of different interests and viewpoints that can play a bad joke on the BSP and on other parties in the coming election. We must clearly show how we differ in order to know how to unite—this is the only way for the unity of not only the nation but also the party, internally, under conditions of pluralism. In other words, we are not splitting the party, but neither do we intend to remain silent when our viewpoints and appraisals differ from those of the BSP leadership, even more so because our position is that of thousands of BSP members and sympathizers. Our great aim, in fact, is to give new impact to the renovation and social democratization of the party.

Commission Views Winter Oil, Fuel Supplies

AU1109112291 Sofia Khorizont Radio Network in Bulgarian 0900 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Report by Galina Stancheva]

[Text] The Commission for Day-to-Day Coordination and Control of National Energy and Raw Material

Supplies of the Council of Ministers has been in session this morning for almost an hour. Here is a telephone report from our correspondent Galina Stancheva:

[Stancheva] The first item on the commission's agenda was an analysis of the fulfillment of the commission's decision of 13 August in connection with the preparations for the 1991-92 fall and winter period. The commission discussed a memorandum submitted by Mr. Aleksandur Tomov, chairman of the Governmental Energy Commission, and a draft decision by the Council of Ministers on this issue.

The management of Khimimport submitted some gloomy additional information. We will receive only 920,000 tonnes of the 2,416,000 tonnes of petroleum the Soviet Union had contracted to supply. The delivery schedules are not being fulfilled. For September, 250,000 tonnes were confirmed, but none of this petroleum has arrived so far. Only one tanker has arrived with petroleum due under the August schedule. The economic leaders said that the reasons are understandable, and our Soviet partners' difficulties are well known, but it is necessary to clarify the rhythm of the deliveries.

Libya has adopted a decision to stop deliveries to Bulgaria. In August, negotiations opened with the World Bank on granting credit to purchase petroleum and heavy fuel oil. On 5 September, Khimimport announced a competition and sent letters to Bulgarian embassies. All would-be suppliers wanting to take part in the competition must register by 13 September, and their offers are expected by 20 September. However, it was stated that we can realistically count on receiving the first quantities of the petroleum purchased with this credit only at the beginning of October.

Thus, during the fourth quarter of this year, Bulgaria expects to receive a total of 1.2-1.3 million tonnes of petroleum from the Soviet Union, or purchases with this credit from the World Bank.

Neftekhim announced that, because of changes in the foreign currency exchange rates, losses were 100 million [currency unit not stated] during August alone, which is the equivalent of a half-tanker cargo of petroleum, and demanded that some decision should be made on setting a fixed exchange rate for petroleum and fuels. In the discussions on this issue, other points raised included the need to clarify the prices of automobile and diesel fuels and to guarantee the necessary quantities of domestic gas oil for purchase by the population. In addition, it was firmly stated that measures must be introduced to ensure the prudent usage of diesel fuel by industry. It was proposed that a list of enterprises that can operate on heavy fuel oil be drawn up and that these enterprises should not use diesel fuels.

The Ministry of Agriculture raised a further note of alarm by stating that it was once again impossible to guarantee the 400,000 tonnes of motor and diesel fuel that are needed every month. The only difference was that the companies involved now offer different excuses this time. Representatives from the ministry stated that the farmers need 28,000 tonnes of liquid fuel for September and 22,000 tonnes for October; otherwise, there will be wheat shortages and the corn crop will be wasted.

The Governmental Energy Commission has other important, serious, and complex issues on its agenda today, and the meeting is likely to last a considerable time.

Minister Mateev Announces School Reforms

AU1009150291 Sofia BTA in English 1426 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Sofia, September 10 (BTA)—This school year will differ considerably from the previous ones—this became clear at a press conference of the leadership of the Ministry of Education today. Professor Matey Mateev, minister of education, acquainted reporters with the reforms in education elaborated during the summer. There will be three educational courses at the general education schools which would make it possible to introduce differentiated studies in the upper grades. Teachers and the school leaderships will be given greater freedom, more children will be taught at the foreign language schools and new specialties, corresponding to the present requirements of the economy will be introduced at the vocational schools. Experimental classes in philosophy have been introduced in the elementary course and they will be taught after American teaching methods.

Teaching and methodological control will be realized at two levels: By the school master and by the Ministry of Education, all intermediary control units being abolished. The aim is to make the school an independent juridical factor for which there is no legal basis yet.

Professor Mateev elaborated on the greatest novelty this school year—the introduction of optional mother tongue classes in some schools. He said that the experimental classes this spring served as a basis for drawing up a special curriculum on the basis of a bilingual textbook. The textbook will come out by the end of this month, according to Prof. Mateev and all teachers will pass a special course of training.

Textbooks will be free only for the elementary course. They will cost a total of 200 leva for the students in the higher grades.

Havel 'Disappointed' in French Position on Quotas

LD1009080191 Prague CTK in English 1245 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Prague, Sept 9 (CTK)—Czechoslovak President Vaclav Havel "is disappointed by France's stand" against raising EC import quotas for Czechoslovak goods, "but this does not mean he thinks the whole association process is over," Jiri Oberfalzer from the Press and Information Department of the president's office said today.

Oberfalzer, who substituted for Havel's spokesman Michael Zantovsky, currently in the United States, at today's regular briefing, was referring to a meeting of EC foreign ministers last week on association status for Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary.

France took a hard line against allowing greater access to EC markets for meat imports from the three countries.

Oberfalzer said Havel believes all the Central European countries will obtain EC association status sooner or later.

Oberfalzer also pointed to progress in talks on a Czechoslovak-German treaty. He said the problems are being slowly resolved.

Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier held private talks on the subject with his German counterpart, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, in Bavaria on September 1.

On the possible recognition of the independence of Slovenia and Croatia, Havel "believes that arbitration talks i.e. a peace conference, should be held first," Oberfalzer said.

He added that "Havel deems it premature to speak about what would follow if it failed."

On Havel's three-day working visit to Slovakia last week, during which he spoke to government officials, political party leaders, business people and ordinary citizens, Oberfalzer said: "From all these talks, he (Havel) did not at all draw the conclusion that separatist trends in Slovakia are on the rise."

Calls for an independent Slovakia have surfaced while an optimal arrangement of relations between Czechoslovakia's constituent republics is being sought.

Oberfalzer said Havel will probably visit the United States before the end of this year.

Foreign Diplomats Told of Disappointment With EC

LD1009215291 Prague Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Czech 1400 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Zdenko Pirek today met (?Michel Cromow), charge d'affaires of the Netherlands to Czechoslovakia, and Jean Gueguinou, French Ambassador to Czechoslovakia, to convey to them Czechoslovakia's disappointment, that as a result of the attitude displayed by some member-states of the so-called Big 12, the Council for General Affairs of European Communities, at its session in Brussels on 6 September, did not approve the broadening of the EC Commission mandate for talks on associate agreements for Czechoslovakia, Poland, and Hungary.

He also informed them that until the necessary adjustment of the mandate is made by the European community, Czechoslovakia believes that the seventh round of talks on our country's membership of European Communities is quite pointless. He assured them at the same time, however, that Czechoslovakia is ready to continue contacts with experts of the EC Commission.

Dienstbier Meets Sobchak, Dumas in Moscow

LD1009123591 Prague Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Czech 1000 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Petr Voldan report on an interview with Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier in Moscow; date not given—recorded]

[Excerpts] Among the foreign ministers present at today's conference on human rights in Moscow is Jiri Dienstbier. He, however, uses his presence in Moscow for other meetings and bilateral talks, as our special correspondent Petr Voldan reports:

[Begin recording] [Voldan] Good afternoon from Moscow. When you hear my report, our foreign minister should be having talks in the Kremlin with Mikhail Gorbachev. We will report to you about this meeting later in the afternoon and early evening.

The working day began for our diplomats at breakfast time when they met St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak for talks. The mayor of the city on the Neva River, who thinks that one of the opportunities for a closer cooperation is the position of his city near the Baltic republics, is interested in closer contacts with Czechoslovakia.

We asked Jiri Dienstbier what he discussed with Anatoliy Sobchak, after being briefed on the situation in the Soviet Union and possible dangers of developments there:

[Dienstbier] We talked in great detail about the fact that the St. Petersburg region is interested in buying food from Czechoslovakia, in establishing joint projects with Czechoslovak enterprises because, as he said, no direct contacts existed here before. Their capacity and opportunities are enormous, as are the possibilities of our industry. It is necessary to search for possibilities for such cooperation.

[Voldan] The foreign minister presented to Anatoliy Sobchak an invitation to visit Prague from Prague's Mayor Koran and an invitation to visit Slovakia.

Jiri Dienstbier is naturally using his presence in Moscow to hold a number of talks about what interests our diplomacy and our citizens. An example of such talks was his brief meeting with the French foreign minister, which our foreign minister described as follows:

[Dienstbier] Just now, I had talks with French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas on their stance in Brussels on Thursday when they opposed the increase of quotas for meat. The whole situation is a bit too dramatic, since it involves 11,000 cows from the all of central Europe. In France, it is a very dramatic political issue since farmers are organizing demonstrations. This issue will be resolved gradually. Minister Dumas also said that France supports the sale of agricultural surpluses from the countries of central Europe to the Soviet Union, and that at this stage it could be a better solution, even a much broader one, than to increase limits on food imports.

As far as the limits for the EC are concerned, they will be resolved gradually, but they are prepared to push for EC financing of the Soviet Union's purchase of food in Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary. [end recording]

Interview With Havel on Bratislava Talks

LD0809174191

[Editorial Report] Prague Ceskoslovensky Rozhlas Radio Network in Czech/Slovak at 1215 GMT on 8 September, in its regular "Conversations at Lany" program, broadcasts a 23-minute interview with CSFR President Vaclav Havel by editor Dufkova, recorded on 6 September immediately after his return from Slovakia.

The program begins with Havel describing his meeting with the Czech and Slovak National Councils on 5 September. Havel highlights his talks with the ministers in charge of the Slovak economy and says that they discussed the lack of coordination between the Slovak Republic and the Federal Government. He goes on to point out that this shortcoming is not of fundamental importance; it slows down the progress, but it is not going to halt it. The task is the fine-tuning of the powers of the ministries in question.

Havel goes on to point out that successes in the political sphere cannot be achieved as quickly as in other spheres of human activity. He also mentions a meeting of government officials that was also attended by their wives, some of whom were meeting for the first time. Havel mentions in this context Raisa Gorbacheva as the first wife of a Soviet leader to adopt a high profile.

Havel then sums up the agenda of his three-day visit to Slovakia. Speaking about his meeting with representatives of the Czech and Slovak legislatures in Bratislava he says: "In the evening [5 September], I met with the members of the two National Councils—the Czech National Council and the Slovak National Council—for talks that lasted for two or two and a half hours. I considered this meeting very important because, as you well know, at the same time that I was in Bratislava, talks were held there by the two National Councils. These talks were complicated and difficult not only because of different points of view held by the two Presidia regarding our future constitutional set-up but also because a range of different views exist within the Presidia. Nevertheless, today they issued a communique.

"As far as this communique is concerned, I consider it important that the communique clearly states the intention to draft fundamental constitutional texts—that is, an agreement between the republics and three Constitutions—to draft them before the end of the year. It clearly states the intention to make these texts compatible, to draft them in such a way that they fit with each other and form a logical entity. The will was expressed to take a legal and constitutional course of action and not to declare some unilateral acts that could cause a situation in which a dual law operates, thus probably leading to very many complications.

"I think it is important that talks between the two Presidia reached this conclusion at the end. These were, in fact, the first official talks on this subject because all of the previous talks were only preliminary ones—on the political level, talks by political parties, by political representatives. These were, in fact, the first official talks of the supreme bodies of the two republics about the course of action in drafting a new constitutional set-up.

"Although, when reading this communique in the newspapers, one can get the feeling that on the whole it is a bit vague and disparate, those who think about it or those who are aware of the entire background know that a certain small step forward to clarify the future of our state has been taken." He adds that it is slow progress, but it is progress.

Dufkova then reminds Havel that, while in Bratislava, he met with former Slovak premier Meciar. Havel replies:

"Yes, the meeting took place today [6 September] because today I received representatives of all of the 10 parties represented in the Slovak National Council. It was a marathon, 10 meetings with all the parties, and it was very interesting for me because it gave me an overall view of the Slovak political scene.

"I met with Mr. Meciar, I think for the first time since April. Mr. Meciar is a well-known personality of the Slovak political scene—he is an inseparable part of it. I have to say that we did not agree on some issues, and we stated, totally openly, that our views were different. Nevertheless, our talks were tactful, open, and friendly."

Dufkova then asks if there is fair play on the Czechoslovak political scene. Havel admits that he sometimes gets depressed when reading the newspapers and coming

across political attacks for the sake of attacks. He also notes that Czechoslovak citizens continue to rely too much on their state. This is a legacy of the communist era, he says, this paternalistic concept of a state. Many citizens turn to him with requests for help with issues they should tackle by themselves, and he points out that they should assume the responsibility themselves.

Dufkova then quotes from a letter sent from Pankrac Prison. She says: "You mentioned letters you keep getting, and I have a letter with me from cell No. 61 in Pankrac Prison [in Prague], from which I quote: 'We prisoners in cell No. 61 in Pankrac Prison would like to ask the president whether he envisages some kind of amnesty this year. It would be handy for us.'"

Havel replies: "I can imagine it would. I was in prison myself, so I know that amnesty is every prisoner's main hope.

"Nevertheless, I do not intend to declare an amnesty in the forseeable future because I declared a very wide-ranging amnesty shortly after being elected president for the first time, for very justifiable reasons. It was really necessary to do so because all of the prisoners—regardless of how bad or how awful the crimes they committed were—were judged by communist courts, which were decayed. My view was that because of that, a wide-ranging amnesty was necessary in order to give certain people a chance. Those who made use of it made use of it—and those who betrayed that trust are back in prison.

"Such a wide-ranging amnesty cannot be declared every year. That is out of the question.

"I would not like to anger the prisoners in cell no. 61, but, if they have committed crimes, they have pay for them."

The interview concludes with Dufkova asking Havel about his views on the changing face of Prague city. He replies that the city is becoming more colorful, thanks to the little shops and pubs, and he stresses that obviously something new is being born in Prague.

Assembly Committees Discuss Budget Implementation

AU1009124091 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 6 Sep 91 p 3

["(pp)"-signed report: "The Assembly Has Verified the Budget"]

[Text] Prague—The Federal Assembly Budget Committees dealt with verifying the state budget's implementation at their meeting on 5 September. By 30 June, the aggregate surplus of all three budgets amounted to 17.7 billion korunas; nevertheless, according to preliminary figures, it had fallen to 10.7 billion korunas by the end of August.

The budgets' average monthly receipts since the beginning of the year have amounted to approximately 37 billion korunas, and monthly expenditure has amounted to 34 billion korunas. However, these figures had been reversed by August. Receipts amounted to 34.5 billion korunas, and expenditures amounted to 36.9 billion korunas.

Federal Deputy Finance Minister Ivan Kocarnik also briefed the deputies on the prospects for fulfilling the annual budget. According to him, achieving an eight billion koruna budget surplus is a realistic prospect, although budget receipts will continue to fall slightly. However, he admitted that if all the pessimistic forecasts are fulfilled, the state budgets' aggregate total may not amount to a surplus, but could end up as a two billion koruna deficit.

During the debate, a number of deputies referred to the dangers for the state budget from falling receipts, especially from levies on profit. For example, Milos Zeman (Civic Movement) stated that the increase in levies on profit during the first six months of the year is an unequivocal result of price increases and, in view of the fact that levies on profit are paid in advance, the enterprises paid them from the assumed profit on goods they have in stock and, obviously, will never sell. Therefore, in his opinion, receipts from levies on profit are entered rather "haphazardly" in the budget. This is illustrated by the 83 percent of our enterprises that are insolvent, while 25 percent of them are primarily insolvent; this means that they are not insolvent as a result of their customers' failure to pay.

Among other things, Ivan Kocarnik said that the government is considering reintroducing import surcharges on imported private cars so that our car plants are not placed at a taxation disadvantage by foreign competition.

Bank Chairman Sees Positive Economic Developments

AU1009171391 Prague HOSPODARSKE NOVINY in Czech 4 Sep 91 pp 1, 3

[Marcela Doleckova report: "Pumping in Money Cannot Save the Economy"]

[Text] Although the reduction of the discount rate and the maximum surcharge on commercial interest rates alone cannot fundamentally change the economic situation in the enterprise sector, it is a clear sign that there has been a turn for the better in the development of the economy.

This perhaps is the main point of yesterday's news conference organized in Prague by Czechoslovak State Bank [SBCS] Chairman J. Tosovsky following the SBCS Bank Council decision to lower the discount rate and the maximum allowable deviation from it (details in HOSPODARSKE NOVINY 3 September). The Bank

Council reached this decision having analyzed the developments to date and having made qualified estimates of future developments. The SBCS expects that the pace of decline of the national income and the gross domestic product will slow down in the second half, so that the national income for the whole of 1991 will decline by approximately 18 percent (in the first half by 13.8 percent) and gross domestic product by 16 percent (first half by 12 percent).

Despite expectations that the internal convertibility of the koruna and the liberalization of foreign trade would result in a payment deficit of $2.5 billion for the year, the actual deficit for the whole first half amounts to only $340 million. The SBCS is therefore convinced that the final current account balance for the year will be only $1.3 billion in the red. That is only one-half of the original expectations.

In the unemployment sphere, the SBCS expects that the number of unemployed in the CSFR could, at worst, reach approximately 700,000 people (the current figure is about 362,000).

In the prices sphere, the SBCS chairman admitted that the price shock at the beginning of the year was undoubtedly much stronger than expected but, precisely as predicted by the government, the pace of inflation slowed down substantially and very quickly. According to the consumer index, on 31 July inflation was 59.1 percent when compared with the same date of last year, and 49.2 percent in comparison with 1 January 1991. However, inflation in July was negative (prices declined) and despite the incomplete data for August, it is obvious that prices—at least of food—also declined in that month. The SBCS expects that inflation will resurface in the fall, but its pace should not reach the January and February records: J. Tosovsky said that in the second half it is expected to be 1 percent per month.

Although the maximum interest rate charged on new credits is 17 percent (formerly 19.5 percent), J. Tosovsky was reserved in his assessment of its impact on the enterprise sphere. Nevertheless, he is convinced that for enterprises adjusting their operation to the market, it will mean support for new business intentions, while for those not doing so, it will at least improve conditions.

In this context, J. Tosovsky emphasized that the problems of the Czechoslovak economy cannot be solved by pumping money into it. That would only prolong the suffering of things that are terminally ill. He added, however, that for viable enterprises still burdened by "bad" credits that prevent their take-off for the blue skies of the market world, the SBCS is preparing a proposal for restructuring their debts. The proposal will be submitted to the State Financial Council and, although J. Tosovsky refused at first to go into detail, in reply to a question from HOSPODARSKE NOVINY, he said that the proposal under consideration conforms to market conditions. Hence, it does not involve a bureaucratic sphere of government clerks, but utilizes a whole range of various instruments such as postponement of payments, grants, or credit capitalization. The proposal is neutral with respect to the budget, but Chairman Tosovsky admitted with a smile that the government has certain property, so he might have meant government bonds. In any event, there will not be any across-the-board clearance of enterprise debts but rather a selective intervention. To a HOSPODARSKE NOVINY question as to whether the selecting would be done by the banks, the SBCS chairman replied only with a smile.

Although the SBCS did not make any recommendations to the commercial banks as to how they should respond to the change in the interest rate, it apparently came out of the meeting of the SBCS and the general directors of the big "seven" commercial banks that the saving banks, in particular, do not intend to reduce the interest rate on deposits. We will soon find out how the other financial institutions react, as they were discussing the issue yesterday.

Together with the discount rate and surcharge changes, as of 1 October the SBCS canceled all binding regulations on import payments, so as of October, it is up to the importer alone to negotiate the conditions of payment. Asked by HOSPODARSKE NOVINY whether, in view of the rapid growth in the number of businesses engaged in foreign trade (from a few dozen to more than 5,000), this would not lead to naive errors on the part of the importers, J. Tosovsky said that such a risk certainly exists, but one can learn from one's mistakes, and for the importer, a mistake will be a lesson.

In its supply of convertible currency for foreign tourism, the SBCS is considering raising the limit for the next year by approximately 50 percent, i.e. from this year's 5,000 korunas to 7,000 or 8,000. At the same time—unlike now—this year's allotment would not be transferable to 1992. The SBCS will provide details in due course. As an illustration, J. Tosovsky said that approximately 18.8 billion korunas is deposited in citizens' convertible currency accounts, which is about 10 billion more than at the beginning of the year. He pointed out that from the point of view of the balance of payments, the purchase of convertible currency for purposes of tourism and its subsequent deposit in an account has a neutral effect. It does not change anything in the balance of payments.

Legislative Council Proposes Screening Law

AU1109112991 Prague MLADA FRONTA DNES in Czech 9 Sep 91 pp 1, 2

[Tomas Marek report: "Law on Screening"]

[Text] After the last meeting of the CSFR Legislative Council, major changes have been made to the bill defining the conditions for holding office in bodies and organizations of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic. For example, the demand by reporters in the independent mass media that the members of the editorial staff be screened has now been met.

The bill presented by the Legislative Council to the Federal Government at its extraordinary meeting today has been brought in line with international agreements, above all, the Charter of Basic Human Rights and Freedoms. As distinct from recent versions, the bill provides the possibility of court protection for an individual before there is an employment-related dispute, that is, a dispute between the employer and an employee who has been dismissed on the grounds of law. Another significant change is that it is the organization that must request the certificate of probity, and not the person who is working in a job position to which the "screening law" applies.

The Federal Ministry of the Interior is obliged to forward the certificate of probity to the person to whom it applies within 30 days and, at the same time, the ministry will communicate this fact to the body that requested the certificate. The person is then obliged to present this certificate to the chief of the organization or body that requested it.

If the person does not comply with this requirement, the chief of the organization will request a copy of the certificate from the Federal Ministry of the Interior.

The Legislative Council once again expanded the range of job positions to which the law applies. The law also applies to elected or appointed teachers and senior staff at high schools and universities. The law directly names some republican bodies, such as Czech Radio and Television and Slovak Radio and Television. In the opinion of the Legislative Council, this does not override the jurisdiction of the republics because, according to the constitutional law of the federation, the federation has jurisdiction over matters relating to labor, wages, social policy, employer-employee relations, and collective bargaining. The federal government also has jurisdiction over obligations ensuing from international agreements in these spheres.

Certain changes were made in the definition of activities and job positions that are incompatible with engagement in certain spheres. In particular, the document includes a clause stating that the law applies to cases where a person participated—between 25 February 1948 and 17 November 1989—in the suppression of human rights as an employee of State Security, as someone who knowingly collaborated with State Security, as a member of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia apparatus or the Slovak Communist Party apparatus, or as a member of the People's Militia.

Sladek Predicts Big Election Win for Republicans

AU1109080891 Prague CTK in English 1355 GMT 7 Sep 91

[Text] Olomouc, north Moravia, Sept 7 (CTK)—Miroslav Sladek, leader of the Association for the Republic-Czechoslovak Republican Party (SPR-RSC), today predicted 40-45 seats for his party in Czechoslovakia's next elections to parliament.

There are 300 mandates in Czechoslovakia's Federal Assembly. The largest bloc held by any single party or coalition at the moment is the 47 seats occupied by the Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia (KSCM) and the Slovak Party of the Democratic Left (SDL).

"Once in parliament, we will push for the restoration of capital punishment and demand the immediate establishment of an analogy to the Nuremberg trials for the as yet unpunished offenders (responsible) for political developments in Czechoslovakia after 1968", Sladek told a crowd of several hundred supporters gathered in the Holic football stadium here.

Sladek, who regularly accuses the current government of "crypto-communism" and calls for early elections, said he has proof that former opponents of the communist regime received sums of 15,000-20,000 korunas ($500-666) a month in German marks. He said he intends to reveal the evidence just prior to the elections, scheduled to be held by June 1992, "so that people will remember it well in June".

In a speech lasting more than two hours, Sladek criticized President Vaclav Havel for surrounding himself with people who could be referred to at best as pigs and wild men. He also demanded the resignation of Federal Interior Minister Jan Langos and other members of the Federal and Czech Interior Ministries.

Jeszenszky Meets Polish, Czech Ministers in Moscow

LD1109094691 Budapest MTI in English 0635 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Moscow, September 11 (MTI)—The relation towards the European Communities, the new bilateral contracts to be concluded with Moscow, and cooperation between Budapest, Warsaw and Prague were the themes discussed by Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jeszenszky on Tuesday evening, in the Polish Embassy in Moscow, with his Polish and Czechoslovak partners.

With respect to the relation with the EC, the sides said they would ask the EC to grant a loan to Moscow to be able to purchase agricultural products from the three countries.

The significance of the security policy article was again raised in connection with the bilateral contracts. However, in matters of bilateral cooperation, the sides again failed to reach agreement on whether to sign the agreement setting down the terms of this at the forthcoming summit in Krakow, or at a later date.

Jeszenszky is to conclude his visit to Moscow on Wednesday, and will then fly to Paris.

Foreign Affairs Spokesman Laments EC Decision

LD1109100191 Budapest MTI in English 1510 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Budapest, September 10 (MTI)—Hungary noted with regret that the EC member countries have failed to agree on the question of agricultural quotas for Hungary and this has crushed Hungarian hopes pinned on the acceleration of talks about an association agreement. September 6 would clear the way for the conclusion of talks as quickly as possible, Foreign Affairs Spokesman Janos Hermann said at the regular weekly press conference, analysing the situation in the wake of the EC decision.

Hermann recalled that, in the days of the Soviet crisis, the EC and its members made the important and valuable gesture of expressing solidarity with the central East European countries and confirmed their intention to speed up talks on association and to conclude the agreements as soon as possible.

Hungary regards the association agreement as a fundamental factor in her intregration into Europe. Hungary trusts that the obstacles will, in the end, be removed and the talks will be suceessfully completed.

The spokesman announced that Austrian Chancellor Franz Vranitzky would be arriving on a two-day visit to Hungary on September 18 at the invitation of Prime Minister Jozsef Antall.

Katona Comments

AU1009102991 Budapest MTI in English 1549 GMT 8 Sep 91

[Text] Budapest, 8 Sep (MTI)—A political decision is needed from the part of the member states of the European communities for the EC to be able to conclude an associate contract with Czechoslovakia, Poland and Hungary—said Tamas Katona, political secretary of state of the Hungarian Foreign Ministry, in Dortmund over the weekend.

Katona was attending a forum organized to mark the 20th anniversary of the founding of the local German-Hungarian Society.

The secretary of state made the remarks shortly after France had prevented the finalization of the associate contracts in Brussels.

Katona called attention to the fact that the European communities essentially passed a political decision when it accepted Greece, Spain or Portugal into the organization, and the economic considerations were not in the foreground then.

Membership Conditions Not Problem

LD1109093991 Budapest MTV Television Network in Hungarian 0430 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Excerpt] Hungary's associate membership of the Common Market is not delayed because of the failure, owing to the French, of the Community's foreign ministers to decide for the time being on conditions of joining. This was said by the Hungarian foreign minister who met in Moscow with several of his Common Market counterparts. [passage omitted]

Kadar: Still No Agreement on CEMA Assets

LD1009194791 Budapest Kossuth Radio Network in Hungarian 1000 GMT 2 Sep 91

[Text] There is still no agreement on the future of CEMA assets, said Bela Kadar, Hungarian minister of foreign economic relations, in Moscow. Gabor Izbeki reports:

[Izbeki] Due to the lack of agreement, the Hungarian party finally proposed that, if Moscow insists on claiming the CEMA Palace, the countries concerned receive offices suitable for business activities in Moscow to the value of their quota. As chairman of the CEMA committee, Minister Bela Kadar told Hungarian journalists that he did not want a confrontation on this issue with the Soviets, who want to deprive the former CEMA member states of their assets in some inexplicable way.

Hungary, for example, claims 220 square meters of useful area in the headquarters based on its 10

quota. The value of this is not even established yet. The Soviets are prepared to value the building at 100 million rubles, up to $3 million at most. According even to modest

assessments, the building is worth $200 million, so the difference in assessment is 70-fold.

Bela Kadar expressed his hopes that the Soviets would make this exchange compromise. If not, then the mandate of the so-called Liquidation Committee would be extended by one month, for the time being, in order to settle the dispute.

Speaking of bilateral relations, the Hungarian minister of foreign economic relations said that the new Soviet foreign economy leadership is only just getting to know the problems, but in the light of changes after the coup, there is hope for the development of economic cooperation.

Kadar Says USSR Now 'More Open' to Proposals

LD1009192691 Budapest MTI in English 1719 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Budapest, September 10 (MTI)—The Soviets are now far more open to Hungarian proposals, Bela Kadar, Hungarian minister of international economic relations, told MTI this afternoon on his arrival in Budapest from Moscow.

Whilst in the Soviet capital, the Hungarian minister held talks with Yevgeniy Saburov, deputy premier of the Russian Federation, and Gennadiy Filshin, deputy minister of foreign economic relations of Russia.

"It's clear that we should concentrate on contacts with individual republics now", Kadar said.

He quoted trade statistics which show that Hungarian exports to the Soviet Union were 504 million dollars and imports 1 billion dollars in the first seven months of the year.

While Hungary has paid for over two-thirds of its imports, the Soviet side has opened l/cs [letters of credit] worth only 212 million dollars so far.

It was pointed out at the talks that Hungarian companies intend selling 1.1 billion US dollars' worth of industrial goods and 480 million US dollars' worth of farm produce to the Soviet Union in the near future.

It was agreed that Hungary will deliver 250 million US dollars' worth of medicines to the USSR, with payment to start in 90 days.

Provided it gets appropriate bank guarantees, Hungary is also ready to export 500,000 tonnes of grain to the Soviet Union on an 18-month credit.

No headway was made at the talks on the matter of COMECON assets, however.

Goncz To Mediate Between Social Interest Groups

AU1009090291 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 7 Sep 91 p 1

[Interview with President Arpad Goncz by Janos Vajda; place and date not given: "At the Trade Unions' Request—Arpad Goncz Is Willing To Mediate"]

[Text] It is well known that social tensions are becoming deeper in Hungary amidst declining economic performance. At the same time, the forums of social interest coordination are unable to completely fulfill their role—mainly because of artificial obstacles. President Goncz was asked to help solve the tense problems in these circumstances:

[Vajda] The trade unions asked President Goncz to promote negotiations between the government, the legislative parties, and the organizations of employers and employees in order to achieve an economic-social agreement, and he was asked to be a patron of this issue. Do you think that such negotiations are timely?

[Goncz] I have been interested in the issue of how to preserve and establish social peace within a constitutional framework for a long time now. Today, there might be a greater need to do this than ever before. Very many people—through no fault of their own—are struggling to survive, and an increasing number of people are becoming unemployed. This might be a breeding ground for impatience and extreme emotions and manifestations. That is why all honest initiatives are important if they search for a solution for the maintenance of a common agreement at the negotiating table and not on the streets.

[Vajda] Can you reconcile your office of president of the republic with being the patron of these negotiations?

[Goncz] By virtue of my office, I am also responsible for domestic peace, knowing that opposition and a show of force cannot be in the interest of anyone in any circumstances. I myself often initiated negotiations between opposing sides in order to solve social and political tensions. For this reason, I find the request of the national conference of the National Association of Hungarian Trade Unions honorable, and if I enjoy the trust of all sides that are invited to the negotiations, and if they are all ready to sit down at the negotiating table, then I am ready to contribute to the successful completion of these negotiations.

[Vajda] Are you worried that the "hot autumn" now often mentioned might disturb the negotiations?

[Goncz] The negotiations cannot last for months in the present situation. The length of time to come to an agreement depends on the participants. It is easier to curb intense emotions when people can see that an actual dialogue is in progress on their daily problems and on the issues they are most interested in.

[Vajda] In your opinion, what are the most burning issues?

[Goncz] All participants will obviously expound their views during the preparation of the negotiations. According to my personal experience and the letters I have received, people are very much interested in the issues the trade union is inquiring into. In my view, the most important thing now is to establish conditions for a peaceful economic transition based on common consent, similar to the peaceful political transition. That could complete the democratic change of

regime, and the market economy could turn into a social market economy through this.

Welfare Ministry Official on Unemployment Program

AU1009151691 Budapest NEPSZAVA in Hungarian 9 Sep 91 p 7

[Interview with Ferenc Rolek, administrative state secretary at the Ministry of Social Welfare, by Zsuzsa Varga: "Rolek: Not To Lick Our Wounds—To Break out of the Grip"]

[Text] Unemployment did not only take its toll on the economy but also on society. Of course, everyone knew that this was one of the costs of the change of economic structure, the bitter pill that we definitely have to swallow in the hope of a future escape. However, theory and practice are different things. Forecasting is one thing, but it is different from personally feeling what it means to be unemployed, or experiencing it in one's narrower or wider environment day in and day out.

We are becoming acquainted with new expressions, for example, active and passive employment policy. We asked Ferenc Rolek to explain what these notions really mean:

[Rolek] To begin with, let me say that we are fully aware that unemployed people need financial as well as moral and other kinds of support. It would be a good thing if people who found themselves unemployed did not view their situation as final, but had the will and intention to seek a way out. At the same time, it would be good if they were able to accept their temporary situation at least to the extent of not being ashamed to register and occasionally to ask for aid. We are well aware of the fact that a person who loses his job also becomes isolated from his previous social relations at the same time. We would need more administrators and different circumstances in the labor exchanges for the daily processing of these so-called socialization problems.

[Varga] Indeed, one gets the feeling one is in a dentist's waiting room in most of these labor exchanges. They also remind me of doctors' surgeries because, there too, only a few minutes are allowed for each person. However, it obviously costs money to change these circumstances—just as it does to deal with unemployment. How much money?

[Rolek] According to our calculations, we would need 55 billion forints to provide for the unemployed, and a further 20 to 25 billion forints to spend on active unemployment policy measures, namely retraining and similar things in 1992. Against this 80 billion forints, only 30 billion forints are available for us in 1991. This is a considerable burden on the budget, on the employers and the employees, too, but we cannot avoid accepting this fact.

[Varga] Do you agree that, other than giving aid, there are several other measures, but they are not yet used in Hungary?

[Rolek] We will be able to see several such measures beginning in autumn. Undoubtedly though, this is a so-called recession-type unemployment, which means that very many workplaces are being closed down. Our room for maneuver also becomes smaller at these times of shrinking demand for labor. It is hard to find money for retraining or applications at a time when huge amounts are required for passive measures, mainly benefits.

[Varga] All the same, we should not give up preparation for the future, especially because hundreds of thousands of people in trouble cannot be let down.

[Rolek] We agree on this point. We have to start from the economic situation when we determine the directions for seeking a way out. At the moment, for example, most of the unemployed people have lost their jobs because our eastern exports decreased to minimal levels. The way privatization is progressing is also a determining factor. The faster it goes, the more people might become unemployed. At the same time, the creation of new jobs has to be partly financed from the privatization income. According to our calculations, some 20 percent of this income should be used for an active employment policy.

[Varga] To create jobs? Today, this is one of the main demands of the trade unions.

[Rolek] That would be spectacular, but it is not good for the state to create jobs. In my opinion, these sources should be used to stimulate and enliven the private sector, which is undoubtedly a less spectacular method but it certainly works for a longer time.

[Varga] Some liveliness can certainly be seen in the private sector, but this is not equivalent to a boom.

[Rolek] That is true. The greatest problem is the lack of capital; however, Rothschild also started by displaying his goods in the street and trying to sell them. The private sector cannot become strong overnight, although this process can certainly be speeded up by state measures.

[Varga] What are the main areas of state support?

[Rolek] State support does not necessarily mean that we contribute to the building of a factory. If, let us say, we finance the retraining of the 300 prospective workers of this factory, this also belongs to this category. Entrepreneurs have to initiate this support, and already there is a great demand for it reflected in the applications we are receiving.

[Varga] Are there any other possibilities to conduct an active employment policy?

[Rolek] If an employment policy is active, it can influence the entire economy. For example, one can privatize according to various principles: Privatization can be as fair as possible, it can be as profitable as possible, or it can be as beneficial as possible, from the point of view of employment. I am convinced that instead of licking our wounds, we should appear as active participants and policymakers on the economic scene.

[Varga] There is a lot of talk about retraining these days. However, people often ask what professions they should be retrained for?

[Rolek] I think we can guess the main trends. For example, we can be sure that more experts will be needed in the services sector, in foreign trade, in financial spheres, and in computer technology, and the knowledge of foreign languages will come to the fore. Some 80 percent of available retraining benefits are distributed in a decentralized way—that is, according to the needs of the individual local areas—but there are also some central organizations. For example, the employment fund covers the retraining of Russian-language teachers, but several counties have decided to use this fund for other purposes, so there is already great outcry.

[Varga] Due to our unemployment rate and the accompanying fast spread of moonlighting, many people compare our development to that of Italy. Would you agree?

[Rolek] Unfortunately, moonlighting is spreading fast, and it is hard to do anything to stop it. Nevertheless, I am not afraid that our development will head in some kind of a southern European direction, because our historical circumstances are different. As far as the Italian economy is concerned, if we reached their level, we would be pleased to put up with the accompanying moonlighting....

Statistical Office Reports on Grain Harvest

AU1109092591 Budapest MTI in English 1627 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Budapest, 9 Sep (MTI)—Hungary's grain crop only had a half a per cent drop from last year's harvest. The total yield registering at 7.9 million tonnes - 2.7 per cent more than the average crop over the last five years, the Central Statistical Office reports.

Wheat, accounting for about three-quarters of the crop, saw a 3.4-per-cent drop from the crop of 1990.

The quantity of rye is 221,000 tonnes, 3.5 per cent down from last year, while the crop of autumn barley rose to 1 million tonnes, 6 per cent more than last year.

Spring barley yielded a crop of nearly 600,000 tonnes, more than a 30-per-cent growth on that of 1990.

SZDSZ Leader Sees No Change in Party Setup

AU0909133391 Budapest MAGYAR HIRLAP in Hungarian 7 Sep 91 p 9

[Interview with Miklos Gaspar Tamas, parliamentary deputy of the Alliance of Free Democrats, by Dezso Pinter; place and date not given: "We Can Expect Long Struggles"]

[Excerpts] "Hungary has had one and a half years to carry out Western-liberal reforms, but the Hungarian Democratic Forum [MDF] has missed the chance. Perhaps it will be too late by the time the current coalition finally falls at the upcoming elections. By then, our main problem will probably be the refugee issue"—Miklos Gaspar Tamas said among other things. [passage omitted]

[Pinter] To what extent can the future of the two liberal parties be identical, the future of the Alliance of Free Democrats [SZDSZ] and that of the Federation of Young Democrats [FIDESZ]?

[Tamas] We are identical as regards the basic issues. No one in the SZDSZ and the FIDESZ has to coordinate steps to take a stand in defending freedom of conscience, freedom of the press, or freedom of speech. The fact that I do not always sympathize with FIDESZ political tactics does not alter anything.

[Pinter] In your view, what is the aim of these tactics?

[Tamas] What else? To obtain government rule. In itself, this is absolutely right. However, I think it is at least alarming to see a liberal and democratic party trying to make use of, or agree with the prevailing anti-pluralist mood. I am sure that the FIDESZ only shelves its own pluralist convictions when it comes up with its "competence" bluff aimed at increasing its popularity. In politics, if one takes up a mask for a few months in order to advance on the popularity list, this mask could easily become part of one's features and can no longer be taken off. Hungarians do not like parties, and the FIDESZ presents itself as a non-party-minded party, a party of non-party members and, among other things, this is the reason for its popularity. However, the SZDSZ is currently in a deep internal crisis, unfortunately. Nevertheless, it is certain that the SZDSZ and the FIDESZ will again get closer to each other.

[Pinter] No one regards the current setup of political parties as a final one. Do you expect basic changes?

[Tamas] I will probably surprise you with my boring answer, but I do not expect serious changes. Our people are dissatisfied with pluralist politics, and this always brings up the idea of creating new parties, but they underestimate the speed at which political traditions are crystallized. This has also taken me by surprise. Hungarian parties are not more uncertain than their foreign counterparts. Our public regards the entire multiparty system as unsuccessful, foreign, and irritating.

[Pinter] Just like many other people from the opposition and the coalition, you are also talking about the danger of political destabilization. Could such a development be close?

[Tamas] Today's bad-mood Hungary is still politically stable because there is no other clear alternative to the multiparty system. The West represents such a strong cultural motif and seems such a successful order that dictatorial slogans would not meet with any understanding today. [passage omitted]

Walesa Adviser Defends Pace of Reforms

PM1109083191 Lodz GLOS PORANNY in Polish 31 Aug-1 Sep 91 pp 1, 4

[Interview with Counselor Jan Olszewski, adviser to President Walesa, by correspondent Henryk Sroczynski; place and date not given]

[Text] [Sroczynski] As President Lech Walesa'a adviser, you were at his side during the days of the USSR coup. Do you believe that those events will influence the progress of reforms in our own country?

[Olszewski] Now, as we speak, it seems that matters have reached a happy ending in the USSR. However, I still think that not everything is entirely clear there... I wish I were mistaken, but we have not yet seen the end to the various shifts, changes, and other developments. Consequently, the situation in the Soviet Union should be constantly at the focus of our attention. We should weigh its implications carefully as we consider any question having to do with further progress of reforms in our country.

[Sroczynski] And, in your opinion, is time an important factor here?

[Olszewski] What has happened in the Soviet Union constitutes a most important reminder for the whole political class. It reminds us that we must act swiftly and choose the direction of our actions rationally. At present we cannot forecast the length of time we still have given to us, but we know—at least on the basis of what happened in this case—that this time is invaluable for us now and that one day we will have to give a most scrupulous account before history's judgment of how we took advantage of it. It is worth mentioning here that, until now, our political elites believed that there was no danger from the Soviet Union to the process of transformations taking place in Poland. Such a possibility was not even considered...

[Sroczynski] But all acceleration must inevitably be followed by particular results...

[Olszewski] The issue of the time we have at our disposal and the pace of the transformations, which was an element in the call for acceleration, split up Solidarity in the middle of last year. This call, developed further by the Center Alliance, expresses precisely the idea that what we have before us is a limited time within which we must accomplish a qualitative transition from the postcommunist system to an altogether new formation. Furthermore, we should be aware that, if we fail to put this time to the best use, the whole process of transformations could still become distorted, if not altogether reversed. However, this line of thinking is not accepted—and has never been accepted—by the camp opposite to ours, that is, the Democratic Union.

[Sroczynski] Are you denying that the other side can have reasonable arguments?

[Olszewski] The fact that the Democratic Union declares in favor of continuing with the principles adopted in the roundtable talks does not, as I understand it, follow from any particular love for the communist partner, nor from a sense of deep bonds of loyalty that would make them inclined to preserve the pact, but simply from an attitude whereby the present situation is regarded as transient and requiring only mild changes to be achieved at minimum costs. "Why should we accelerate the present processes and multiply the difficulties if we can achieve the same results in a slower but gentler manner?"—such is the reasoning adopted by the other side. This reasoning could be seen as quite sensible and rational,, if not for the fact that we are working in circumstances where the process of changes can at any time be disturbed, disrupted, or even reversed.

[Sroczynski] The call for acceleration and statements made by certain Center Alliance activists, claiming that the state has no operational army, police, or special forces at its instant disposal, indicate an increasing and alarming probability that that political orientation is aiming toward dictatorship.

[Olszewski] It is quite clear to me that, if anyone in this country intended to restore the dictatorial system—disregarding for the moment the question of whether that is at all possible—the most efficient tool he could use for the purpose would be, precisely, the old communist structures that for 40 years did nothing else than serve to maintain dictatorship. They are highly specialized in this aspect, they are efficient, and they are particularly suited to this type of power. If, then, a particular side declares in favor of the speediest possible dismantling of these structures and a setting up of alternative structures, which will be perhaps weaker and less specialized than the old ones but more democratic and loyal to the democratic, rule-of-law state, it signals an elementary lack of common sense, in addition to plain demagoguery, to ascribe to it some dictatorial leanings.

[Sroczynski] The Center Alliance is inclined to throw doubt on the accuracy of the claim that the president is president of all Poles. Could this be described as an attempt to make him the exclusive leader of just the Belvedere Palace camp?

[Olszewski] Certainly the president is, in one sense, the president of all Poles. I say "in one sense," because it does not mean that he is a president representing all existing political options. He is a president who represents all citizens, in the sense that it is one of his constitutional duties to ensure that the rights of all citizens are guaranteed equally, but also in the sense that has the right to expect loyalty from all his citizens. This certainly does not mean that the president should support all the political options and ideological orientations. We must not forget here, either, that there there exists in Poland a profound and fundamental division between the residual postcommunist structures and the new democratic structures currently being set up. Consequently,

the president can be expected to bring to a completion the liquidation of communist structures and the construction of a democratic state system. The idea that the president should treat all existing ideological options equally is simply absurd.

[Sroczynski] Recently you have put forward slogans calling for the defense of the farmer and the worker. Is this because they were the ones who gained very little—if anything—from the transformations taking place in the country?

[Olszewski] I believe that, in the historical perspective, everyone in the country benefits from the transformations taking place in the country. But we are also taking a stand against certain anomalies in our economic life—anomalies which are especially harmful to agriculture and industry and, consequently, to the situation of the people employed in these sectors. Certain branches, divisions, and enterprises would have had a good chance to stay afloat, but they collapse and sink as a result of economic mechanisms being employed against them that have nothing to do with the free market and everything to do with administrative strictures. We understand that our transition to a free market system is of an unconventional nature, and that for this reason we shall have to expect a certain number of mistakes and a certain share of costs to be paid. But this does not mean that these mistakes should be accepted. As we travel along the difficult and unchartered road that we must follow, we need to maintain constant readiness to make certain changes in the pace and style of our progress.

[Sroczynski] What issues should be at the center of the new government's attention after the election? What, in your opinion, are the most urgent questions for the country now?

[Olszewski] I believe that the most urgent problem now is to formulate certain new directions for our economic policy that would allow us to emerge from the recession. The recession has currently reached dimensions that already border on the extreme, ultimate limit of public endurance. Unless we manage to carry out a certain maneuver to reverse this deepening recession, we will face a real threat of a situation that could cancel everything we have accomplished to date.

[Sroczynski] Did these tenets form the basis of the policy of the government that you formed last December?

[Olszewski] The process of forming the government, to which you refer, was carried out in different circumstances from today's and at a different stage of political development than we have now or than we will have 3 months, after the forthcoming elections. This is why there are no clearly and unequivocally convergent points in these two policies. There is no doubt that the government, which promoted the mottoes of acceleration and breakthrough, adopted as one of its guidelines the need to meet the difficulties envisaged in a face-to-face confrontation. At that time, we expected that the difficulties—and the confrontation—were bound to follow from the implementation of the economic policy that we adopted. I must say that the current developments only prove that, after more than six months, the breakthrough has still not taken place.

[Sroczynski] What is your opinion of the government led by Jan Krzysztof Bielecki?

[Olszewski] I would not like to pass any critical judgments here, or to make any global negative assessments. First, we must remember that the Bielecki government—which had declared that it was at the same time a government of continuation and change—adopted as one of its main tasks the goal of bringing about an early election. Then, for reasons that were, in fact, altogether outside the government's control, it was unable to discharge this task. Moreover, it soon came to face a completely new angle in its policy. It was required to accomplish certain tasks that had not been envisaged at all at the time of its installation. For these reasons, the results it achieved could be interpreted in a light that is unfavorable for the Bielecki cabinet.

[Sroczynski] How do you envisage the political configuration in the next Sejm, considering that the Center Alliance was highly critical of the new electoral law approved by the Sejm?

[Olszewski] I can only reiterate what I have already repeatedly stated, which is a virtual certainty: that, unfortunately, the electoral law is bound to influence the election results. I am very much afraid that, given the rules of the electoral law and the existing public mood, it will be extremely difficult now to form a parliament capable of creating a stable and permanent political foundation for a firm new government.

[Sroczynski] How do you envisage the role of the opposition now? You place the Democratic Union outside the reform camp....

[Olszewski] Well, you see, the Democratic Union has placed itself outside the reform camp, since it accepts and adopts certain tenets of the roundtable conference—the tenets which stipulate the maintenance of the so-called "thick black line" principle [leaving the past political system behind without recriminations and starting anew without old political liabilities]. We resort to slogans, but we know quite well what is behind them, what is behind the slogan of the thick black line, or behind the claim that "Poland is a rule-of-law state." After all, the existing model of law is conducive to a continuation of the roundtable policy line. And that is a line that effectively tampers with the pace of the reforms, if it does not destroy outright the reforms themselves.

[Sroczynski] How do you envisage your own political future? Would you take it upon yourself to form a new government?

[Olszewski] I understand that you are referring to the issues at the center of last December's conflict. That situation was completely different from the one we will

encounter after the parliamentary election. I believe that at the present moment we should, first and foremost, concentrate on planning how to win this election: to win it not only for ourselves but for Poland and for the reform line. It will be a very difficult task. If only one-third of the electorate turns out to vote—and this figure is suggested by opinion poll results—then we will all suffer an outright defeat, regardless of how the votes are distributed.

[Sroczynski] Let me repeat my question: Would you undertake...?

[Olszewski] It would be better if we did not play at forecasting the future.

Roundup on Parties' Election Preparations

AU1009145291 Warsaw ZYCIE WARSZAWY in Polish 7-8 Sep 91 p 2

[Staffers roundup: "The Democratic Union Is Sure of Success: The Democratic Left Alliance Predicts an Aggressive Campaign"]

[Text] "The Union will be the largest grouping in the new parliament," announced Jacek Kuron at a news conference given by the Democratic Union election campaign staff in Warsaw on 6 September.

The Democratic Union is fielding a total of 28 candidates for seats in the Sejm and Senate in the Warsaw and Warsaw Voivodship districts. Men (25) and college graduates (25) predominate among the candidates. The candidates include five current deputies and three current senators.

The Democratic Union election campaign staff stressed that it was the first to register its election lists and had gathered a total of 14,500 signatures for its Sejm candidates and 45,000 signatures of persons supporting Union candidates to the Senate.

Reports that money was paid for the collection of signatures were firmly rejected. The meeting was attended by most of the candidates for the Sejm and the Senate. Jacek Kuron reaffirmed the Union's declaration concerning cooperation with all pro-reform groupings.

Asked about the discussion that is in progress in the Sejm concerning institutional matters, the Union's candidates said that this was not the right time for such a discussion. The opinion was unanimously voiced by Jacek Kuron, Zofia Kuratowska, and Piotr Fogler.

Members of the Social Democratic Party of the Republic of Poland account for 45 percent of the candidates for Parliament who will start out on the Democratic Left Alliance list, said Leszek Miller at a news conference given by the Alliance. One-third of the places will be occupied by members of the National Trade Union Confederation. Of the 390 left-wing candidates, almost half fall into the 41-50 age group. The Democratic Left Alliance list includes 47 women. Miller assumes that the election campaign will be aggressive and fierce. The party secretary announced that his coalition especially wants to discuss programs. "However, if we are attacked, we will respond," he added.

Kornel Morawiecki's Freedom Party (previously "Fighting Solidarity") is fielding candidates in about 20 districts. The party's leader is standing in Wroclaw. Another prominent figure is Romuald Kukolowicz—a former adviser to the "Solidarity" National Commission—who is starting out in Warsaw. The Freedom Party believes that the signing of the Roundtable Accord has delayed the process of abandoning communism. Its assessment of the "Solidarity" governments is negative. It accuses "Solidarity" governments of having pursued an incorrect eastern policy and ruining the economy and agriculture with the Balcerowicz plan. The party's election campaign calls for a total break with the remnants of the old regime.

"Solidarity 80" is also fielding candidates for Parliament. It has five lists: three in Silesia and one each in Warsaw and Szczecin. The union's chairman, Marian Jurczyk, will not be standing, because he wants to occupy himself solely with union activities.

However, Seweryn Jaworski, head of the union's Warsaw chapter, will be standing. M. Jurczyk said that the aim of future "Solidarity 80" parliamentarians will be to bolster union activities. This is because he does not want to resort to strikes or hunger strikes that will weaken the Polish economy, which is already in a bad state.

Sejm Committee Views Bill on Special Powers

LD1009193791 Warsaw PAP in English 1842 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Warsaw Sept. 10—The Sejm (lower house) extraordinary committee set up to examine the draft law granting the Government powers to issue decrees with the force of law voted on Tuesday in favour of a "positive" concept of the Special Powers Bill. With 25 votes for, 7 votes against and 3 abstentions the committee decided that the law should define concrete matters to be covered by decrees. It simultaneously rejected the "negative" concept favoured by the Government within which the bill would name all those areas to which decrees could not apply.

Commenting on the results of the vote the Government spokesman Andrzej Zarebski told newsmen he could not say when the Government would meet but expressed a hope that both Parliament and the Cabinet will reach consensus on the matter by combining the negative and positive lists "although it will be difficult to enumerate all the laws the Government would like to change".

Following the vote the extraordinary committee appointed a working team which is to work on the amended draft law if the Government approves it.

"We need a little time to take a stand on the committee's proposals", Vice-Premier Balcerowicz declared. He upheld the Government's general concept of the draft law telling the deputies that the Government decided to apply for special powers in order to prevent a legislative gap emerging before a new parliament is well installed, and in the face of disquieting state of public finances.

Balcerowicz also expressed a conviction that the atmosphere of good relations between the Government and the Sejm—though somewhat strained recently—will be preserved.

Meanwhile, the Government forwarded to the Sejm Monday night a draft of constitutional amendments which it said are intended to facilitate the appointment of a cabinet at the early stages of work of a new democratically elected parliament.

Diplomatic Relations Reestablished With Estonia

LD1009215391 Warsaw PAP in English 1546 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Warsaw, Sept. 10—Poland and Estonia restored diplomatic relations on September 9, 1991.

According to the Tuesday report of the Polish Foreign Ministry's press department the Foreign Ministry of Estonia sent on Monday, September 9, a note containing a positive reply to the Polish proposal of restoring diplomatic relations between the two countries.

In keeping with the decisions agreed between the Polish and Estonian Foreign Ministries the diplomatic relations were subsequently re-established on that day.

Skubizewski Views Soviet Coup, Disintegration

PM0909153091 Rotterdam NRC HANDELSBLAD in Dutch 4 Sep 91 p 5

[Report on 4 September The Hague interview with Foreign Minister Krzysztof Skubiszewski by Peter Michielsen]

[Text] The Hague, 4 Sep—Krzysztof Skubiszewski cannot entirely suppress a feeling of satisfaction: The West has allowed itself to be taken by surprise by the rapid collapse of the state structures of the Soviet Union. Poland was not surprised: "We had seen the collapse coming. We were certainly not surprised by it. On the contrary: We were prepared for it."

The West, said the minister, who is currently in The Hague for bilateral talks, has in the last few years adopted too cautious an approach to the movement toward greater autonomy in the republics. "It was far too cautious, even though the West was in a much better position than us, with our economic problems. The West has always looked to Gorbachev, and has kept the Baltic peoples, the Russians, and the Ukrainians at a distance."

Poland has not done so. "We saw the centrifugal forces, not only in the Baltic countries, but in Georgia, Russia, and the other republics. Now everything is collapsing, but this collapse had already started last year. That is why we were able to respond then to the modest start which the republics were then making," Skubiszewski said.

Also, last year Poland signed bilateral agreements with the Ukraine and Russia, for example. In that respect, Skubiszewski said with satisfaction, "We are ahead of the West, and even ahead of countries like Czechoslovakia and Hungary." With a country like Lithuania, which was ignored for so long by the West to not sour relations with Gorbachev, Poland has relations that are more than cordial, the Polish minister said: Their foreign minister has already paid five visits to Poland, and President Landsbergis also came recently. "We are not starting from zero. But you are."

At the present moment, Skubiszewski said, no one knows what the new Union Treaty will look like, what central Soviet powers will remain, and what the relationship between Russia and the Soviet Union will be. "For this very reason, I am happy that we thought last year about agreements with the republics. The Soviet Union, we concluded, must be approached on two levels, on the level of the center and on the level of the republics. The West was unwilling to understand that."

Not that the agreements with the republics, which have recently been proclaiming their independence with the greatest speed, have produced much for the Poles in the last year. "The problem was that the republics did not know where their powers lay and what was still decided by the center. Up to now the center has controlled everything. For months, a trade agreement between Poland and the Ukraine has been awaiting signature. I said: Let's sign it; we'll just have to see what comes out of it, even though the volume of trade may be only half of what is mentioned in the agreement. But that was impossible, because the Ukraine had no currency, all the money was in the hands of Moscow."

In this sense, what is now happening suits Poland very well. Skubiszewski: "Naturally we have our worries. We are concerned about what is happening, about the collapse. We are concerned about the question of who has control over the arms in the Soviet Union, about the Soviet Union's commitments with regard to conventional arms in Europe: Which republic will take which commitments upon itself? But there is also hope; when areas of competence in the trading field have been clarified, that will be a gain in itself."

Poland, Skubiszewski said, will have to resign itself to the uncertainty that, for the time being at least, will continue to surround a number of questions of the greatest importance to Poland, such as the withdrawal of the 50,000 Soviet troops in Poland and the question of the Soviet debt to Poland—which by last year had already reached a total of $7 million, which will probably

increase significantly this year, and which Moscow will have to apportion among the different republics as the powers of the center crumble.

This makes things more complicated. Previously, Poland has had one eastern neighbor, suddenly now there are five: Russia, Lithuania, Belorussia, the Ukraine, and the Soviet Union. There are Polish investments in the Soviet Union that need to be protected, there are the debts, there are the troops. Deputy Prime Minister Leszek Balcerowicz has been in Moscow since 2 September, chiefly to discuss the economic and financial aspects of relations. However, in the new situation, he will not be talking—or will hardly talk—to Soviet officials, Skubiszewski said: "He will be talking to the Russians."

On the subject of security—a question that looms large for Poland because of its 1,250-kilometer border with the Soviet Union—Warsaw has no worries, the minister said: There are no border problems, there are not even any territorial demands, even though Poland was the big loser as a result of the Yalta agreement: It lost large areas to Lithuania, Belorussia, and the Ukraine. "But everything is now settled. There will be absolutely no talk of borders." Poland, Skubiszewski said, will continue to base its security on three pillars: Good relations with all its neighbors—including the neighbors to the east—the regional accords with Czechoslovakia, Hungary, the Baltic republics, and the Hexagonale Group—which embraces Austria, Italy, and Yugoslavia, as well as Czechoslovakia and Hungary—and finally the contacts with the framework of the CSCE and with NATO, the Western European Union, and the EC.

For President Lech Walesa, the 18-19 August coup d'etat in Moscow was sufficient reason—10 minutes after he had been awakened in Warsaw by the telephone call with the news—to set in motion preparations for the mobilization of Polish forces and also to order that the move be kept secret to not alarm the population. One day later, on 20 August, when the outcome of the coup against Gorbachev was still far from clear, army leaders from Czechoslovakia and Hungary arrived in Warsaw to discuss joint steps within the framework of regional cooperation.

Thus, people were alarmed and surprised by the coup, although Skubiszewski said that he had received signals that indicated that "something was in the offing" in Moscow. But after the end of the coup, the concern soon disappeared, the Hungarians and the Czechoslovaks could go home, and the mobilization was called off. What remains, he said, is chiefly a concern about a possible increase in the numbers of refugees. "There is chaos, and we hope that people will be able to contain this chaos in the Soviet Union. Or in whatever lies to the east of Poland."

Iliescu on Israel, Moldova Ties; Party Activities

AU1109100791 Bucharest Programul Unu Radio Network in Romanian 0806 GMT 11 Sep

[Introductory statement by President Ion Iliescu at news conference in Bucharest's Unirii Hall—live]

[Text] I would like to begin my short introduction with several conclusions regarding my visit to Israel. We considered and now consider that visit as an important foreign policy action, which is part and parcel of our political opening after the 1989 December revolution. As a matter of fact, the Romanian and foreign media covered the visit in detail, in spite of occasionally different emphases, which is only natural given the specific character of each publication. Therefore, I only want to point out a few aspects of that visit.

First, the visit expressed the political determination of the leaderships of the two countries to mark a new stage in bilateral ties and to act to develop cooperation in all spheres, including the political, economic, and cultural-scientific ones. This was also reflected by the comments made by the Israeli officials during our meetings and by the press in general.

Second, the visit also reflected the disappearance of ideological criteria in the external relations of Romania, which is decisively expanding broad relations with all states, both in Europe and other continents.

Third, it became obvious that, in spite of some forecasts to the contrary, the visit began and proceeded in an open, frank, and friendly atmosphere, thus contributing to enhancing mutual trust.

Of course, there was mention of the anti-Semitic manifestations that took place in our lives. However, I would like to point out that this was done in a balanced way, by defining the real dimension of these manifestations and correctly assessing the clear, unambiguous, and principled position of the country's political leadership in this respect, as well as prevailing public opinion toward such phenomena. Once again, I would like to emphasize our position, namely that anti-Semitism as well as other extremist, exclusivist, and chauvinistic manifestations are an expression of political and intellectual primitiveness and [word indistinct] and should be censured and condemned firmly. They are not worthy of a civilized society, and I believe that they are not even characteristic of the Romanian people, whose specific features are generosity and an open and friendly spirit of human solidarity.

I would like to particularly stress the warm reception extended to our delegation by representatives of Israeli citizens originating from Romania—a large community of more than 400,000 people, representing some 10 percent of Israel's population. I would like to say that we were pleased with the esteem in which these compatriots of ours—as we consider them—are held both by the country's political leadership and at the local level. They are highly regarded for their competence and good professional training, for their efficiency and inventiveness, whatever their job, and for their decency and modesty. I would like to quote to you some of the assessments made in this respect by Israel's leadership, particularly the following: With the Romanians, we had no problems whatsoever; they integrated without much hullabaloo and are reliable people. We are glad to hear such assessments, since they refer to traits that, to a certain extent, are also characteristic of the environment in which these people were formed. In the meetings I held with them, I noted that all of them preserve warm feelings toward their country of birth and want to be useful and help to develop relations between our countries.

Finally, during my visits to industrial, agricultural, and scientific research units, I noted a distinct factor, namely a concern with thoroughness and efficiency. I do not want to go into details now—we have already reported on various aspects of these visits—but all this has contributed to some outstanding progress in all fields over there. I believe this is an encouraging example regarding the possibilities of a small country with limited resources to achieve great things through work, perseverance, creative spirit, and national solidarity.

In conclusion, I would like to emphasize that both sides expressed the desire for cooperation and pointed out the real and broad opportunities for such a cooperation in various spheres of activity. What is important now is to give concrete shape to these opportunities, through a more active and responsible involvement by the Romanian partners—I am referring particularly to economic entities and trade companies. I must say that, from the various discussions held, I heard some critical remarks about the lack of flexibility and the inertia existing at certain levels in our economic apparatus, as well as with the representatives of certain trade companies.

In this respect, we also took some concrete steps to organize visits by groups of Romanian experts, who should conduct direct talks there, establish contacts, and create the framework for future cooperation. Likewise, we have arranged for visits here by Israeli bankers, financiers, and businessmen. This concludes my remarks on the visit to Israel.

I would like to also say that next week Turkish President Turgut Ozal will visit our country. We consider this visit an important political event, an expression of the positive evolution of our bilateral relations and of the mutual desire for rapprochement and cooperation. As a matter of fact, our relations with Turkey in the political, economic, and other spheres have been strongly reactivated in the past year. Mr. Ozal has played a particular role in stimulating this opening. Therefore, we attach great importance to his visit to Romania, and we want to receive him as a true friend of Romania.

I will proceed now to a third issue that I want to talk about: over the past weeks, the domestic and international political scheme was dominated by the events in the USSR, the failure of the coup d'etat, and the proclamation of Moldova's independence, along with that of other USSR republics. However, we are directly affected by and interested in the independence proclamation of the Republic of Moldova. I would like to emphasize, as an outstanding fact, the spirit of cohesion that has prevailed for several days in our country, something that was also expressed during my meeting with the leaders of the parties represented in Parliament.

This was a promising sign for our political life, which I welcomed as such at the time. Unfortunately, it did not last long until people resorted again to—what I would call—electoral actions, which continue to this very day. It is worth mentioning that everybody at that time, including foreign political circles and the international press, appreciated the prompt and courageous position adopted by Romania's political leadership. We are now witnessing belated attempts to distort things and even to unnecessarily chide and belittle our position. Several publications are quite virulent on this topic. This is a regrettable fact. I wonder and would like to ask them, too, who stands to benefit from this zealous activity, from years and years of propaganda on end—certainly not our national interests.

The leadership of the Republic of Moldova adopted a courageous attitude toward the state coup in Moscow and toward the putschists at that time and during the proclamation of its independence. On that occasion, they appealed for our support, for our political help in consolidating the new state status. They appealed—directly and indirectly—to avoid inappropriate manifestations and slogans that would create additional difficulties for them and to respect and support the option of the Moldovan people. We were also told that forcing certain processes would risk compromising them. President Snegur made a very convincing remark: Everything has to be done with patience and wisdom.

Unfortunately, the meeting organized by the National Peasant Party as a token of solidarity with the Moldovan people turned into something else. At one point, the Republic of Moldova and, thus, the subject of the meeting and the destiny of the Bessarabians was forgotten, and insults were voiced against the leadership of this country. This is regrettable for the conduct of a political event, to say the least.

The events initiated by the Association of Former Political Detainees on 6 September were even more reprovable. I am asking myself what meaning the organizers wanted to lend to this event when they planned it exactly for 6 September. Maybe many people do not know what happened on 6 September 1940. Our generation remembers it very well. Was it by accident or intentionally that they programmed this event exactly for 6 September. In any case, this event turned into violence and street disorder; some policemen were manhandled, and there were attempts to use force to enter our government's building.

It is a rule of democratic coexistence that the organizers of certain events should assume full responsibility, and they have to be called to account for the whole process of the events they initiate.

In connection with the demand to outlaw certain parties or to prohibit certain publications, this has to be done in the spirit of the law and on a legal basis, otherwise they risk becoming antidemocratic acts. There is a law, there are legal criteria and judicial authorities to judge the deeds and actions that are at variance with law and order. We cannot protect and promote democracy by encouraging nondemocratic or even antidemocratic acts.

As far as we are concerned, we have condemned all forms of totalitarianism. Everything that we have achieved since December 1989 to today—in basing political activity on a new and democratic foundation or in the economy by promoting the transition to a market economy—expresses our radical break with communist totalitarianism.

A journalist tried to affirm that I had said this for the first time at the meeting with the Diaspora in Israel. I am sorry, but this smacks of amnesia. I affirmed this already on the night of 22 December 1989 in the Statement of the National Salvation Front Council on the break with the former political system and our option for democracy. I not only affirmed this, I also confirmed it on the basis of everything I undertook immediately: The dismantlement of the former state structures—the Grand National Assembly, the State Council, and government—and the formation of the new provisional power bodies at the central and local levels, which were formed within a revolutionary framework and spirit on the basis of the option of local representatives of the masses who were on the move during those days. No delegate from the center was sent to appoint, name, and establish the structures of the new power bodies at the local level; this was done on the basis of the option of the local representatives in each county and locality individually.

Someone suggested that the disappearance of the sole party and the transfer of its patrimony to the state would be the solution to the claims of certain people on the party patrimony. This was done in the first days of January [1990] through the decision of the National Salvation Front Council on the transfer of the patrimony of the former party to the state, through the proclamation of political pluralism, through the issuance of the decree-law on the way to form and register political parties, and through ensuring the unhampered right to free expression from which all of us benefit today, as well as through all the other measures included in the Proclamation of the National Salvation Front Council and

expressed in the documents adopted by the provisional power bodies in the first days and the first period of our political development.

What's the use of all these insinuations under such conditions and the fanning of suspicions regarding Iliescu's so-called neo- or proto-communism? These are merely unfair political and propagandist games. I can say that the practice of labelling and the spirit of intolerance and vendetta derive their origin from totalitarianism. All totalitarian movements actually began in this way, irrespective of what nature—fascist or communist. They began with violence and intolerance and with the brutal repression of their political or ideological opponents.

Linked to all these elements, I would like to emphasize that, now more than ever before, we need national cohesion and unity; we do not need tension. Support for any kind of extremist manifestations and instigation to disorder greatly harms our national interests, and the promotion of the democratization process in our country. At this point, we are going through a difficult period, particularly in the economy, which no government can overcome except through understanding, solidarity, and support from society. Our problems can be solved only through work, responsibility, and initiative at all levels. Under the current circumstances, acts of disorder and disturbances of our normal life turn into political diversion. Actually, some people are bent on demonstrating that Romania is ungovernable, by relying on national disunity and on preserving an atmosphere of suspicion, mistrust, and violence.

The appearance of a study that actually discusses the dismemberment of our country through the so-called economic integration of Transylvania into an interstate community based on the Triagonale founding act [Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary] is not accidental—although its appearance in Poland may be accidental. This study actually reminds me of another one that appeared in 1964. Different ideas also emerge, sometimes even among certain fellow citizens, regarding a possible federal or confederal organization of Romania, through the promotion of an autonomy in certain provinces. I want to draw attention to the danger of such aberrant ideas. We will not permit anyone to infringe upon the territorial integrity of our state for which former generations have fought. Romania is not a multinational state that might face the prospect of certain separate autonomous entities and the organization of federal structures. Romania is a homogeneous and unitary state based on a population with an overwhelming majority of Romanians alongside which live ethnic minorities that are scattered all over our country's territory.

Finally, I would like to emphasize the need to demonstrate strength and maturity, to go beyond group and momentary interests, and to achieve the necessary cohesion at times of great historic turmoil such as our country is going through.

I also want to appeal to the press. In all its diversity—of option, opinion, and position—the press can and must become such a factor of unity and not of discord and poisoning. I believe that an atmosphere of hatred and tension, campaigns of denigration and slander, a lack of decency and politeness, arrogance, manipulated untruths, and distorted and misinterpreted facts by certain publications are unworthy of the press' mission. I also want to emphasize that to be Romanian is proved through what each individual is doing for his country and not by flaunting Romanianism—spelled with three R's—as [Romanian playwright] Caragiale used to say. I believe that it is the moral duty of journalistic ethics for each publication and journalist to ask himself—whenever he publishes his material—whom does it serve. The necessary criticism and loyal confrontation of opinions should not be confused with denigration and slanders.

And in conclusion, I would like to greet the decision adopted by the Parliament to ensure an appropriate procedure to finalize the editing of the Constitution in the shortest time possible. This is the main mission of the Constituent Assembly that was elected on 20 May last year and, I believe, it has carried out tremendous and fruitful work—with the participation of the representatives of all political formations—in connection with formulating—in various stages—the new Constitution, which has now reached its final stage of editing. The basic issues were the subject of discussions in the first part of this year and were endorsed by Parliament. The adoption of the Constitution will mark a major political event in our country, and it will be an important factor for stability and for ensuring the maturation process of Romanian democracy. This is why I believe that the current stage of the Parliament proceedings is of particular importance and significance for the development of our political activity.

Thank you, this has been the introduction—I hope, not a too long one.

First Article of Draft Constitution Approved

AU1009200191 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1912 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 10/9/1991—In its Tuesday session, with 299 pros, the Constituent Assembly approved the first article in Romania's draft constitution.

Here is the first article:

"Romania is a national, sovereign and independent, unitary and indivisible state.

"The Romanian state's form of government is the republic.

"Romania is a democratic and social state of law where the dignity of man, the citizens' rights and freedoms, the free development of human personality, justice and political pluralism represent supreme values and are guaranteed."

All three paragraphs occasioned deep debates especially on certain amendments submitted to the drafting commission. As far as the second paragraph is concerned, an amendment was taken into consideration referring to the establishment

of the form of government by a referendum and not by a constitutional stipulation. This amendment like others was considered, on the basis of the provisions of the Constituent Assembly regulations, as an attempt to reiterate theses or ideas having been rejected through voting by the Constituent Assembly in its previous session, therefore they were no longer debated.

Senator Radu Campeanu, speaking in the name of the National Liberal Party parliamentarians, stated that his formation would abstain from the vote because the second paragraph was not in keeping with the National Liberal Party's exigencies, the form of government having to be decided by the people.

Forty-five parliamentarians voted against the first article among whom the ones belonging to the Hungarian Democratic Union of Romania and to the Christian-Democratic National Peasant Party, and thirty- five abstentions were registered.

Trade Ministry Temporarily Bans Some Exports

AU1009105691 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1009 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 10/9/1991—Under an order of 30 August of Romania's Ministry of Trade and Tourism supplementing an earlier order, the following commodities are temporarily banned from export: sterlised canned vegetables and fruit, dry onions, garlic, potatoes, honey bee (except for cases when sugar is imported instead), poultry meat, sunflower seeds, tomato paste and juice.

USSR To Deliver Goods Worth R52 Million

AU1009110391 Buchares ROMPRES in English 1007 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest, ROMPRES, 10/9/1991—In the wake of a Romanian-USSR exchange of letters of 31 August 1991 at Foreign Ministerial level for the fulfilment of outstanding 1990 contracts, commodities made to order for the USSR will be delivered. The Soviet side agreed that 52 million rubles worth commodities (machinery and equipment for the most part) be delivered until 31 December. Furthermore, a backlog of some 76 million ruble worth of commodities will be shipped on a clearing basis against the U.S. dollar in exchange for natural gas, electricity, iron ore, fuel coal, and others.

PAC Welcomes Action Against 'Extremist' Groups

AU1009185391 Bucharest ROMPRES in English 1730 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Bucharest ROMPRES 10/9/1991—The Civic Alliance Party [PAC] sent the ROMPRES news agency a communique where it "welcomes with satisfaction the resolution of the Reform Charter as well as the one of the National Liberal Party whereby the justice is required to examine the conditions of the foundation and the nature of the activity of the Socialist Party of Labour and of other extremist formations. We consider as welcome the urgent debate in Romania's Senate of the National Liberal Party's proposal and we think the necessary legal measures will be adopted." The communique also expresses the conviction that only a decisive attitude followed by concrete actions towards all those still alive forces capable of slowing down or even stopping the reform process in our country could shun the attempts to restore the dictatorship similar to the August 19 Moscow coup.

The Reform Charter includes the National Salvation Front, the National Liberal Party—Young Wing, the Ecological Movement and the Agrarian Democratic Party.

Article Views Reactions to Civic Alliance Appeal

AU1009163591 Bucharest ROMANIA LIBERA in Romanian 4 Sep 91 p 1

[Raluca Stroie Brumariu article: "The Fear of Truth"]

[Text] The appeal of the Civic Alliance probably caused a great panic among state bodies and mainly within the leadership circles, since everybody who was mentioned in the appeal felt the need to reply. What could have caused such a panic that would cause so many to even lose their temper?

The failed Moscow coup could have influenced the political evolution in Romania in a positive way; positions could have been clarified, and the path of truth could have become much smoother. The democratic forces felt that this moment was appropriate to definitively clarify our domestic political situation and tried to advance along that path opened up by the blow to communism in the USSR. Thus, the Civic Alliance Party, prompt and sure of itself, called on the ruling power and the other forces within the state—the Army, police, Romanian Intelligence Service, and others—to get rid of extremist elements and definitively opt for truth and democracy. The authorities were distraught; the change in the pulse of history hit them fully, and in those moments they were making efforts to find the correct path, or better expressed, to benefit from the moment. The moment of truth and clarifications was approaching, while the leadership tried to prepare for those moments and be ready for a counterattack. That is precisely what it did. It regrouped rapidly, trying to recreate confusion, to block the path of truth, relaunch lies and half-truths, and confuse people through demagogic speeches. During the government's last news conference, Mr. Mihnea Constantinescu affirmed that "just one group cannot hold the monopoly on truth," and that nobody can claim to be the holder of the absolute truth; he called on all personalities of social life and all those who can talk about the past to shed light on this subject. The sense of what he said was more or less that the past must be correctly valued. What was the reason for such a call, if not a counterattack against the Civic Alliance appeal? The leadership is becoming aware of the fact that it does not have much credibility any longer, and by raising the stake of lies, they cannot be believed any

longer; and then, it turns to those who would be ready for a compromise, even among intellectuals, to offer them instead of the serious truth requested by the opposition, a truth that is convenient for the leadership and does not hurt it—a half-truth or falsehood. Thus, without scruples, the attempt to create confusion, to maintain deceit, and to offer a sham truth instead of the real truth continues. This practice continues even now, when a whole world is rejecting lies and deceit, and when communism is collapsing with every passing day. In our country, the president does not take a clear stand on the issue of communism and of perpetuation of communist structures in society. It encourages communist mentalities; all the institutions of those in power use empty demagogic speeches, lies, and deny evidence. Those institutions feel threatened by everything that is happening around us and by what the changes in the USSR might bring about in our country; they also felt threatened by a new courage and new wish of people to find out the truth. They counterattack without arguments—because there is no way they can prove that they are detached from the communist past and do not flirt with extremism—right or left-oriented—or that they have not perpetuated communist methods to hit the opposition, that they have gotten rid of the compromised elements, that they have become democratic, that they do not have anything to hide, and that they are working with complete openness. To the firm demands of the Civic Alliance, they cannot find any other way to retort than through counterattacks and demagogic declarations. The accusations are still valid. Compromise, ambiguity, and confusion cannot succeed today. They can only maintain a state of tension, animosity, and suspicion that is harmful for the entire society. The leadership has definitively lost the train of history. If it is still advancing through hard work, its train is being pushed by opportunists, benefit hunters, and by all those who are afraid of their own past.

Federal

Markovic To Propose Cabinet Changes in 30 Days

LD1009184891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1749 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 10 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Prime Minister Ante Markovic said today he would propose changes in his cabinet to the federal parliament within 30 days.

The press office of the Yugoslav parliament said in a statement that Markovic announced the possibility at a meeting with Parliament President Slobodan Gligorijevic and speakers of the two chambers Bogdan Glumac-Levakov and Dragomir Rakic.

The statement also said that conditions have been met for holding a session of the Chamber of the Republics and Provinces by the end of September. "Some important material questions" will be on the agenda, it added.

It is believed that the delegations of all the six Yugoslav republics and both provinces will attend, the press office said.

The delegations of the northwestern Yugoslav republics of Slovenia and Croatia have not taken part in the sessions of this chamber after they unilaterally decided in late June to secede from Yugoslavia.

It can be expected that the federal chamber will convene in mid- October to examine "questions of interest for the resolution of the Yugoslav crisis", the statement said.

The declaration on Yugoslavia, adopted at the peace conference in The Hague on Saturday, gives priority to the principle of legality as the starting point for settling the Yugoslav crisis. It is therefore important to maintain the institution of the federal parliament - the statement said.

Cease-Fire Violations To Be Discussed 13 Sep

LD1109165191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1610 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 11 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav Government today called a meeting for Friday, September 13, with the premiers of all six Yugoslav republics because of violations of the cease-fire in Croatia, the government information secretariat said in a statement.

The statement said the decision was made "since the presidents of the republics have taken upon themselves international obligations regarding the cease-fire when they signed the cease-fire agreement."

The agreement was signed with the mediation of the European Community on September 2 in Belgrade.

Joint Commission Monitoring Croatia-Bosnia Border

LD1009174191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1551 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Sarajevo, 10 Sep (TANJUG)—The territory of the Republic of Croatia and the territory of Bosnia-Hercegovina may not be used for the preparation and execution of armed actions in the other republic. The paramount task of each republic is to do everything possible to prevent the continuation of the war in Croatia and, in this sense, to prevent the economy from being abused for military purposes.

This assessment was made today during the meeting of a joint commission of the government of Bosnia-Hercegovina and of the government of the Republic of Croatia, which today discussed in Sarajevo the monitoring of the situation in the crisis-ridden border areas of both republics. The evaluation was made that more direct cooperation between the two governments has to be established in view of the fact that the war situation in Croatia could be transferred in a variety of ways to Bosnia-Hercegovina, which already is the case in some border areas.

Despite the war situation in the Republic of Croatia, both governments—the commission's statement stresses—must do everything they can to ensure that economic relations develop in keeping with the ties and cooperation established earlier. It was noted during the meeting, among other things, that the required level of cooperation between the ministries of internal affairs of both republics, and between other ministries as well, in a situation where this sort of cooperation is indispensable, simply does not exist.

Vice Prime Minister Dr. Zdravko Tomac, government member Muhamed Zulic, and Vice Vukojevic, an assistant minister of internal affairs, took part in the work of the commission on behalf of the Croatian Government, and Vice Prime Minister Miodrag Simovic, Defense Minister Jerko Doko, and Avdo Hebbib, an assistant minister of internal affairs, took part on behalf of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Army Exercises Announced for 11 Sep

LD1009181291 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1700 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Starting today and continuing to the end of September, aircraft based at the Pula military airbase will conduct planned day and nighttime military training according. This announcement was made by the Pula information center which also reported that tomorrow, from 1400 to 1800, at the Barbariga testing ground live artillery firing will be carried out toward the Sveti Jakov - Dantula promontory zone. Cars and animals should be removed from the area. Warning has been issued to children, in particular, that, although a thorough inspection of the area will be carried out after the firing, unexploded missiles may still remain on the testing ground.

Weekly Claims Local Commanders Acting as Warlords

LD1009075891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1154 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 9 (TANJUG)—The independent Belgrade weekly VREME writes in today's issue that the establishing of a cease-fire in Yugoslavia no longer depends on the republican leaders and federal officials who signed the cease-fire agreement on September 1 in Belgrade.

The real "warlords" are "local commanders, war feudalists and village potentates, people who without this war would remain what they had been—no one and nothing," VREME says.

The weekly warns that "there are more and more armed formations (military, paramilitary, formal, informal, local and imported) which are escaping the control of their superior command, if they have it at all, or which have no command whatsoever anymore."

In military terminology, the "problem is reduced to commanding, communication and control of armed forces, as well as their origin."

The Serbian, Croatian, Moslem and military lords of the real battlefield are yet to accept the cease-fire, VREME concludes.

International

EC Peace Talks To Resume on 12 Sep

LD1009191891 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1815 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Brussels, Sept 10 (TANJUG)—The peace conference on Yugoslavia, including a meeting scheduled for Thursday [12 September] in The Hague, will resume behind closed doors and "without publicity", decided the conference chairman, British diplomat Lord Carrington. Press releases will be made only when Lord Carrington assesses that the conference has gone "a step forward".

In explaining his decision, the conference chairman said this was a necessary precondition for constructive work and possible success of the peace process, TANJUG's correspondent was told at the Dutch Foreign Ministry.

Officials in The Hague refuse to disclose where the two-day meeting begining on Thursday will be held.

The E.C. commission in Brussels today also reviews the situation in Yugoslavia, but "informally", as announced. The commission, too, will not publish the results of its session.

The Hague meeting on Thursday will be attended by the Yugoslav federal foreign minister, the foreign ministers of the six Yugoslav republics and senior ofnicials of the E.C. twelve. It has been unoffocially learned that the items on the agenda will be devoted to the organization of the conference, i.e. the forms and mechanisms of its work, dynamics and deadlines, and the level of the future meetings.

It has been learned in The Hague that the five members of the arbitration commission for Yugoslavia—the presidents of the constitutional courts of France, Germany, Italy, Belgium and Spain [passage indistinct]

Press Comment on Conference in The Hague

LD1009202991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1520 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, Sept 10 (TANJUG)—The Yugoslav crisis has brought closer together the foreign policies of the European Community (EC) countries and strengthened, not threatened, the "unity in action" of the "Twelve," as the Belgrade daily BORBA says today.

Differences among the EC members are "frequently being dramatized and magnified in some EC countries as well as in Yugoslavia," as the daily sets out. "There is no danger of the community to 'divide' or 'split' over Yugoslavia," BORBA says.

The leadership of the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia is still hoping for foreign troops, but not for those which would have the status of observer but those which would restore order in favour of Croatia, as the Belgrade daily POLITIKA EKSPRES says today.

The daily describes as a "bill with insufficient funds" a call for military intervention in Yugoslavia which Croatian President Franjo Tudjman sent to the EC members in The Hague. "Any protection of separatism by military force could turn the whole of Europe into a battlefield of small-scale secessionist wars, and then also into another world war," the daily says.

"The fate of peace in Yugoslavia depends largely on the capability Yugoslav factors to curb the catastrophe themselves," POLITIKA EKSPRES sets out.

The Belgrade daily VECERNJE NOVOSTI also warns of Tudjman's call for "direct military engagement in Yugoslavia," pointing out that no secessionist policy could win support in Europe.

"Diplomacy, particularly that of the EC countries and the EC as a whole—for many reasons including above all the degree of unity and a non-existent joint defence policy—has no other weapons other than skillfulness and economic sanctions," the daily says.

"Understanding and patience of the 'other side' is one of the (?main) components of the diplomacy's effectiveness," VECERNJE NOVOSTI concludes.

"Following the first round of the Hague peace conference, one could not say with pleasure that Europe knows what it wants," the Zagreb daily VJESNIK says today, specifying that "this primarily applies to the chance for establishing stable political relations in the Balkans and between the Balkans and Central Europe."

"Should the EC and U.S. diplomatic efforts result in a new type of Yugoslav union within its present international borders, the inevitable further development of local problems would be prevented from spreading to the rest of the Balkans, and Eastern and Southern Europe," the daily notes.

Spain, Belgium Appointed to Arbitration Commission

LD1009074191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2257 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Text] Madrid, Brussels, September 9 (TANJUG)—Francisco Tomas y Valiente, president of Spain's constitutional court and Irin Petri, president of Belgium's Constitutional Court, have been appointed members of the EC commission for arbitration in Yugoslavia's crisis. The forming of a commission for arbitration is part of the European Twelve's peace plan adopted at their session in Brussels on August 27 and also accepted by all Yugoslav sides.

The commission is to be composed of the consitutional court presidents of five EC countries, provided that the EC elects three of them and Yugoslavia another two on condition to be unanimous in its choice. [sentence as received]

Belgium's BELGA News Agency transmitted the news of Irin Petri's appointment, explaining that Yugoslavia's Presidency, having failed to reach unanimity, the presidents of the constitutional courts of France, Germany and Italy, as the EC already elected commission members, coopted representatives of Spain and Belgium. [sentence as received]

The commission is expected to meet in session before long and decide on the procedure and forms of its session as well as on its venue.

From The Hague already sent out have been invitations to all Yugoslavia's participants in the conference on Yugoslavia to prepare their "dossiers" for the commission as soon as possible. Yugoslavia's national minorities will also be in a position to address the commission.

Babic Meets With EC Envoy Wijnaendts

AU1009165691 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Report by Milos Rajkovic]

[Text] The talks between Henri Wijnaendts, special envoy of Hans van den Broek, president of the EC Council of Ministers, and Milan Babic, president of the government of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina [SAO Krajina], are under way in Knin. Milos Rajkovic reports:

The talks, which are also being attended by the representatives of the Yugoslav Peoples' Army [YPA], have been held behind closed doors. Before the official beginning of the meeting, Mr. Wijnaendts stated to the assembled journalists that his task was not a political one, but was supposed to secure the undisturbed arrival and stay of the international observers in Krajina. He added that he has already visited Lika, Kordun, Banija, and Western Slavonia, but that he did not hold official talks with Serbs there because, as he particularly emphasized, he was waiting to talk to Babic first. In practical terms, this could mean that Wijnaendts has accepted Milan Babic as a official representative of the Serbs in this area, which could speed up future talks.

I have learned that the SAO Krajina government will offer a statement to ambassador Wijnaendts in which it will be confirmed that Krajina's armed forces—territorial defense and militia—will not be the first to open fire. If Croatian armed formations open fire, the government agrees that the incidents will then be reviewed together with the EC representatives. We also agree that officers acting as a link between the sides in the conflict will discuss the incidents, the statement by the SAO Krajina government says.

A news conference that was supposed to be held in the Knin corps today has been canceled. The journalists were getting ready to ask the officers many questions, especially about why Krajina Interior Minister Milan Martic was sitting in a military vehicle, accompanied by two YPA officers, on the occasion of his arrest in Bosanska Otoka on 8 September. Much fuss was made over this in the Croatian press because it was taken as proof of the alleged plot by the Army and the Knin militia. However, because the news conference in the Knin corps was canceled, as I already said, this questions remained unanswered.

Talks Deemed Successful

LD1009204191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1720 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Knin, 10 Sep (TANJUG)—The second round of talks between Ambassador Henry Wijnaendts, an envoy of the Dutch foreign affairs minister, and Milan Babic, president of the Krajina government, ended successfully late this afternoon with the signing of a declaration stating that, as of today, neither the Territorial Defense nor the militia of Krajina will open fire first.

The declaration, signed by Milan Babic on behalf of the Krajina government, emphasizes the Krajina government's agreement that "each incident should be considered by liaison officers appointed by the parties in the conflict as well as representatives of the European observer mission."

The declaration goes on to state that the Krajina government will guarantee safety for the liaison officers and the EC representatives and will be cooperative from every point of view, including unhindered access to all relevant localities for an investigation into each individual incident. "Our liaison officer will be authorized in each individual incident to give permission to the EC representative to carry out their task in his company," the declaration stresses.

Following the signing of the declaration, Ambassador Wijnaendts made the following statement: "We have taken a step forward along the path which, I hope, will lead to total cease-fire. I welcome Dr. Babic's statement hailing the involvement of the EC. Today's agreement allows access to the EC observer mission. This is an important step forward, a decisive step that will enable all people of goodwill to bring peace to this country. I hope that this is the confirmation that all sides in the conflict recognize that further violence is pointless."

In a brief statement for the press, Babic stressed that the acceptance of his government's declaration by the negotiators on behalf of the EC is a further step toward the recognition of Krajina. In addition, he said, Ambassador Wijnaendts has offered his goodwill mission to negotiate the exchange of prisoners. We accepted this, Babic said, and offered, as a sign of goodwill on our part and of our acceptance of his negotiating services, to take with him several members of the [Croatian] Internal Affairs Ministry and of the National Guard Corps who were in the prison in Knin. Without much deliberation, Mr. Wijnaendts picked the first five prisoners from the list of 30 names.

Croatia

Tudjman Appeals to Carrington, Van den Broek

LD1109110491 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 0905 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Remarks by Croatian Foreign Minister at press conference in the Croatian Assembly—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] We are going to the peace conference utterly dissatisfied. Lord Carrington announced that he would take part in the work of the peace conference if the conference proves to have some purpose, if a genuine, effective cease-fire is reached. A genuine cease-fire was not reached, the war continues, and hostilities are even intensifying. Therefore, on the eve of the peace conference, which is going to resume tomorrow, President Tudjman today sent letters to Lord Carrington and [Netherlands Foreign Minister] Van den Broek, which I am going to read, because they are of considerable importance, and we are now making them public for the first time:

On the eve of the resumption of the peace conference, the letter to Lord Carrington says, we are calling on you to reexamine the tragic situation in Croatia in which the war is still raging, a war waged by Serbia and the Yugoslav Army, which the EC condemned as aggressors by its declaration of 27 August this year.

Your excellency said that there will be no peace conference if a genuine cease-fire is not reached. However, a cease-fire was not reached: Serbian terrorists and the Yugoslav Army are continuing the destructive war, the price of which is hundreds of killed, thousands of wounded, and the unceasing flood of refugees.

In such a situation the peace conference cannot continue with its work peacefully. We are calling on you to reiterate your demand for an absolute and unconditional cease-fire as a precondition for the resumption of the peace conference.

A similar letter was sent to Van den Broek, with a special addition: You, on behalf of the EC troika, really did much and enabled the signing of the cease-fire agreement and the memorandum on accord, and even enabled the convening of the peace conference in The Hague. However, the merciless war continues and in such a situation the peace conference cannot proceed in peace. Hence, we are calling on you to demand an absolute and unconditional cease- fire so that the peace conference can continue its work. Any other solution means only further deepening of suffering of the Croatian people. Yours sincerely, the president of the Republic of Croatia.

This is our action on the eve of the resumption of the peace conference tomorrow. This is not an ultimatum; this is only a warning to and a call on Lord Carrington, who is chairing the conference, and Van den Broek, who is the president of the EC.

National Party Protests Release of Milan Martic

LD1009203191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1907 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Sarajevo, Sept 10 (TANJUG)—Deputies of the Croatian Democratic Union party for Bosnia-Hercegovina today walked out of the republican parliament session in protest at yesterday's release from detention of Milan Martic, police chief of the so-called Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina in Croatia.

According to a statement of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Interior Ministry, Martic was detained two days ago in Otoka near Bosanska Krupa on the basis of a federal warrant for his arrest issued on August 1.

The warrant, issued at the request of the Croatian police, charges Martic with terrorism and armed rebellion against Croatia.

The proceedings against Martic were started before the Zadar District Court, under the Croatian penal code. However, according to the Yugoslav Constitution, this criminal act is regulated by the Federal Penal Code, with which the Croatian legal code collides.

Martic was released yesterday following negotiations between the federal, republican and local police.

The Croatian Democratic Union Party deputies demanded an immediate answer to the questions who released Martic, why and under what circumstances, and who is responsible for what they said was 'involving Bosnia-Hercegovina in the aggression on Croatia'.

After they were informed by the government that they would receive their answers tomorrow, the deputies left the session which was then interrupted.

As annouced, President of the Bosnia-Hercegovina Presidency Alija Izetbegovic tomorrow submits a report to the republican parliament about the peace conference on Yugosalvia, which opened in The Hague last Saturday. The second item on the agenda will be the security situation in the republic.

Vojvodina's Kostic Criticizes Mesic Order on Army

LD1009191991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1810 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, September 10 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Presidency member from Vojvodina Province Jugoslav Kostic has said that the Army will withdraw to the barracks when all paramilitary formations in Croatia and other republics are disarmed and bloodshed is stopped, as the country's state leadership has decided.

In a statement published in today's Belgrade daily POLITIKA, Kostic pointed out that Yugoslav Presidency President Stipe Mesic cannot issue the order for the withdrawal of the Army into barracks because this is within the authority of the collective head of state, according to the rules of procedure.

On Saturday evening when he returned from The Hague where he had attended the peace conference on Yugoslavia, Mesic said he would ask the military leadership to order the Army's withdrawal into barracks and that he would consider that a military coup had been executed in the country if this were not done.

According to Kostic, Mesic's insistence on the Army's withdrawal into barracks is a result of the "strong pressure from the Republic of Croatia."

"With such statements about the Yugoslav People's Army (JNA), Mesic is only further complicating the already difficult situation in the country, but also creating confusion outside Yugoslavia," Kostic concluded.

Official Comments on Serbian Attacks

LD1109112991 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 0905 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Remarks by Milan Brezak, under secretary in the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs, at press conference in the Croatian Assembly in Zagreb—live]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Unfortunately, I must subscribe to Minister Separovic's assessments. Serbia and its army keep trying to occupy parts of Croatian territory. In fact not a single front in Croatia has been closed. All existing fronts have been expanded. Not a single sector of temporarily occupied territories in Croatia has been given back peacefully, and as a result we shall obviously be compelled to get them back by force.

Allow me now to give you a few details which will illustrate exactly what Minister Separovic has been saying, and it is the issue of who the aggressor is. You see, during the past month there were about 450 mortar attacks and attacks by heavy artillery pieces on Croatian territory as a result of which about 16,000 mines, grenades, and bombs, that is, the heaviest and the most destructive type of shells, were showered on various localities and areas in our republic. The fact that this is a war and that it is not a sort of ethnic conflict is testified to by this additional illustration: 1,300 grenades have fallen on the small Hungarian village of Lasovo which is now known to you all and which is in northern Croatia and which, according to the last population census, has 1,300 inhabitants—I am giving you today's data because the figures tally. What possible connection can this have with the ethnic conflict which some people still give as a description for Serbia's war of conquest against Croatia?

Let me say something more about Okucani by way of introduction and we can afterwards discuss it through your questions. You are aware that the territories have occupied the freeway, that it is a strategic point, and that therefore they wanted to occupy it, as it were. I must say that the Ministry of Internal Affairs tackled this business systematically indeed, that the actions by the Croatian defense forces are proceeding in a planned way, that the freeway is at this moment under the control of the Ministry of Internal Affairs Forces. However, because of the danger of artillery and mortar fire in the direction of the freeway in the broad Okucani area, a thorough mopping-up operation of the positions held by the terrorists has to be carried out. And let me say this at once. When we speak of mopping-up operations the expression is immediately misused. There is not a single woman or a single child in that area today. The terrorists made sure they alone remained in these positions, and we shall very soon—I can say this is only a question of hours—we shall very soon clear the entire area around Okucani and get the freeway completely under our control. I must also say that we have received the promise of the army command that the Banja Luka Corps will not interfere with this action. We shall see.

Delnice Garrison Commander Asks to Step Down

LD1009174291 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1500 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Lieutenant-Colonel Anton Racki, until recently commander of the Delnice Garrison, has asked to be relieved from this position. This was announced today by the Delnice municipal assembly. According to the same source, Racki, who is currently on leave, has already been replaced by another person.

Zagreb Radio Reports on Fighting in Nova Gradiska

LD1009185591 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] On the Nova Gradiska battlefront, Serbian terrorists in collusion with the Yugoslav Army have been attacking Croatian defense forces. The villages of Kosovac, Dubovac, Covac, and Gredjani have come under

attack. Members of Martic's police took 200 people hostage from the villages of (?Uskoke), Donji Varos, and Gornji Varos.

Enemy forces are gathering on the Bosnian banks of the Sava River. Missiles are exploding on the outskirts of Nova Gradiska. The local hospital has admitted 18 wounded guardsmen.

84 Combat Deaths Reported Since 2 Aug Cease-Fire

LD1009191691 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1752 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Zagreb, September 10 (TANJUG)—Eighty-four people were killed and 214 wounded in clashes in the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia after the signing of the ceasefire agreement on August 2, the Croatian Interior Ministry said in a statement on Tuesday.

Of the number, 49 members of the Croatian armed formations were killed and 169 wounded in 149 clashes over the period. Civilians accounted for the rest of the casualties, 35 killed and 45 wounded, said the statement.

Six members of the Croatian armed groups were killed and 23 wounded in 13 clashes over the past two days alone, the ministry said.

The statement describes the clashes with Serbs in Croatia and their armed formations as "major armed attacks on the defence forces of the Republic of Croatia."

Croatian Assembly President Charges 'Genocide'

LD1009221791 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 2000 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Croatian Assembly President Zarko Domljan, has sent a letter to Lord Carrington informing him that despite the cease-fire, Serbia continues to wage an even more brutal war against Croatia and that the activities of the Yugoslav Army in Croatia bear the hallmarks of genocide. Dr. Domljan asks Lord Carrington to show understanding, protection, and assistance for the just struggle of the Croatian people for freedom and democracy.

Chetniks, 'Serbo-Communists' Attack Jasenice

LD1109081591 Zagreb Radio Croatia Network in Serbo-Croatian 0700 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Dispatch from Zadar by correspondent Bozidar Klaric]

[Text] Chetnik terrorists and the occupying Serbo-Communist Army this morning started a fresh attack on Jasenice, a village with a predominantly Croatian population, in the municipality of Obrovac. The enemy forces opened cannon, tank, mortar, and other artillery fire on Jasenice from their positions in Obrovac, Zelengrad, and Bilisane a little before 0700 [0500 GMT]. The fire is, we have learned, very fierce and the enemy infantry forces are attacking from the direction of Obrovac. While I am reporting this, the attack is under way, and the Croatian defense forces are successfully repulsing all enemy's attacks which are becoming increasingly fierce.

Over the past few days Jasenice was exposed to fruitless attacks by the aggressor who is trying to push out Croatian defense forces from that village; the Croatian defense forces are defending not only the village itself, but also a bridge in Maslenica which is a very important facility connecting southern and northern Croatia.

Serbia

Mesic Not To Resign From Presidency

LD1109064991 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0426 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, September 11 (TANJUG)—Yugoslav Presidency President Stjepan Mesic said in an interview to the Belgrade daily BORBA that he would not resign, but will demand the Army's withdrawal to the barracks.

"I will not resign, but will call on Army organs to hamstring all those in the Army commands who are not carrying out or are obstructing the implementation of the specific tasks contained in the agreement on cease-fire and the memorandum on the E.C. observer mission", Mesic said in his interview published in today's issue of BORBA.

Mesic said that the Army has to return to the barracks, adding that those who are preventing this were acting as putchists.

"It is clear to everyone that parts of the Army are leading an aggression against Croatia, hiding behind actions of terrorists among the Serbian people", Mesic said.

He indicated the possibility of "making public (at the next session of he Yugoslav collective head of state—TANJUG) that the Army has broken free from the supreme command (the Yugoslav State Presidency—TANJUG) so that it be known that it is acting completely autonomously."

Mesic also said that he had sent two letters to the Army leadership, asking the Army to withdraw to the barracks as in keeping with the State Presidency decision. According to him, the Army said that mechanisms of peaceful withdrawals should be first determined and all armed formations disarmed.

Mesic said that the Army's withdrawal to the barracks would eliminate all disputes in Croatia.

A text along-side the interview in BORBA says that the Yugoslav Republics of Croatia and Slovenia, "in a truly diplomatic, half- secret and secret war" want to return the Army into the barracks after which they would disarm the reserve members of the Croatian Guard and police, as well as other semi-military formations on Croatian territory.

However, Serbia adheres to the "decision of the Yugoslav State Presidency and the earlier defined stand that

first all peace-time military formations should be disarmed, after which the Army would withdraw to the barracks", BORBA writes.

Daily: Adriatic Serbs Threatened With Massacre

LD1009181391 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1540 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, September 10 (TANJUG)—The Belgrade daily BORBA writes on Tuesday that many Serbs who live in Istria, a peninsula in northern Adriatic, have received letters with an ultimatum to leave the region or they would be massacred.

The deadline set for them to leave the region is September 30, says the paper, adding that if they refuse to do so they would be slaughtered. The authors of the ultimatum claim that the "slaughtering would be carried out with italians."

Many Serbs in Pula have also received similar ultimata, signed by a group of unidentified persons who described themselves as members of the Istrian Democratic Assembly.

Croats in Pula have joined strong protests against such behaviour of individuals, assisted by the local press.

The Italian community has immediately distanced itself from the letter while the Istrian Democratic Assembly requested on behalf of its Serbian members a thorough investigation, writes BORBA.

Kosovo Democratic Alliance News Conference

AU1009092391 Pristina BUJKU in Albanian 31 Aug 91 p 4

[Behxhet Halili report: "The Albanians Must Also Be Included in Talks With Europe"]

[Text] These news conferences have become tedious for you, just as Serbia's daily repression has become tedious for us, but I must remind you that these news conferences are the only institution functioning in Kosovo today in which the Albanians' voice can be heard, because, as you know, the Albanians in Kosovo today do not have either radio, television, or daily Albanian-language newspapers.

These were the opening words of Dr. Ibrahim Rugova, Kosovo Democratic Alliance [LDK] chairman, to journalists at the LDK's regular news conference on 30 August.

Stop the Repression Before Worse Happens

Analyzing the present situation in Kosovo, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said that the repression and raids on Albanians' houses are continuing, and that Albanians are still being convicted of misdemeanors, etc. The LDK chairman considered the sentences for misdemeanors to be political sentences for the Albanians, because, as he said, the authorities have found new ways of convicting Albanians while avoiding being compromised in the eyes of the world, as happened when Albanians were sentenced to up to 10 or 15 years' imprisonment. Ibrahim Rugova went on to say that there have been new imprisonments recently. Kosovo Assembly delegate Adem Mikullovci has been imprisoned. We demand Adem Mikullovci's immediate release, as well as that of Professor Murat Bejta, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said, then informing journalists and the public that criminal procedures have also been taken against journalists of RILINDJA and its chief editor because they allegedly spread false information in connection with Kosovo's declaration of independence on 2 July 1990.

A star turning point of this Serbian repression in Kosovo, Rugova said, has been the blow struck against foreign-currency traders on the so-called black market, which Rugova called a people's market that is sustained mainly by Albanians. Even though the black market operates throughout Yugoslavia, because Mr. Markovic is no longer capable of controlling either economic or currency movements, it is being forbidden in Kosovo with the intention of depriving the Albanians of even this means of subsistence. Guns have also been fired in these raids on Albanians, Rugova said, then demanding that the Serbian regime end this repression before worse happens.

Dr. Ibrahim Rugova went on to comment on certain warnings issued by the Serbian Renewal Movement in connection with a strip between the Sandzak and Kosovo, supposedly to provide defense against any possible attack from inhabited areas bordering on Serbia. The purpose of all this is to scare the people and those active in politics in Kosovo.

The Army Was Always Against Us

Since 23 August, the LDK chairman went on to say, more than 6,000 Albanian teachers have been officially suspended from teaching in secondary schools. Dr. Ibrahim Rugova considered that the Serbian warnings that Albanian secondary schools in Kosovo will not operate are a first step toward a further deterioration and exacerbation of the situation in Kosovo. In the course of this, he said, the Serbian police have recently been preventing Albanian teachers from entering schools.

When the school year starts, our children will go to school normally, and if they are prevented we will see what we must do next, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said, considering this a very delicate matter, because we do not want to involve our children in such games. Rugova said that there have been various remarks alleging that we have been threatening Serbian and Montenegrin children. This is not true. We wish no harm either to our children or to anyone else's, and both the Serbian regime and Serbian parents in Kosovo must realize this. Serbian parents and teachers should help to ensure that all children can go happily to school.

Commenting on recent developments in Croatia, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said that if a general mobilization takes place in Croatia and there is open confrontation with the Army, we will call on Albanian soldiers not to shoot not

only at the Croatian people, but at any people in Yugoslavia. Unfortunately, today's Army has changed its principles and its aims, and is acting against many peoples in Yugoslavia. This Army has always been against us, Rugova said.

After saying that the LDK has also written to Kadijevic in connection with the question of recruits, but has received no reply, Rugova spoke in support of the action of mothers in Bosnia, Croatia, Kosovo, and Macedonia for the return of their sons from the Army and against their manipulation.

Dr. Ibrahim Rugova went on to say that a European-level peace conference for Yugoslavia has now been announced, and we demand that the Albanians also be included in these talks, like all other parties interested in a solution of the Yugoslav crisis. According to some reports, only representatives of the federation and the republics will be invited to the talks, but we appeal to be there, too, because the question of Kosovo must also be on the agenda and we must participate in these talks. If we are excluded from these peace efforts, we will openly declare that we are no longer part of this community. The primary aim of the peace conference may be to end the fighting in Croatia, but it must not forget the other parties involved in Yugoslav conflicts, Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said, concluding his remarks.

We With Our Curriculum, They With Theirs [subhead]

Yesterday's LDK news conference was among the most well-attended. Of course, the journalists had many questions.

VECERNJE NOVOSTI's journalist from Belgrade, after making the strange remark that the Kosovo education system was a catastrophe, asked whether it would not be better to make joint efforts (meaning with Serbia) to improve this system. Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said that unfortunately the entire education system in Yugoslavia has been a catastrophe since the reforms of a few years ago. You know, Rugova said, that there are major problems regarding standards in Serbia too. It is not true that we in Kosovo have a lower level of education; the purpose of this accusation is to reduce the number of secondary schools in Kosovo. Our teaching curricula include nothing more and nothing less than those of others. However, if the Serbian authorities are concerned with depriving us of our culture and traditions, this must be pointed out, and it is evident today. The only possible compromise here, Rugova said, is for Albanian children to have their own curriculum, and for Serbian children also to have their own.

Radio Sarajevo's journalist said that Kosutic, the deputy head of the Serbian Government, and Markovic, the Serbian education minister, had come to Kosovo today. Have they come for some kind of compromise? Dr. Ibrahim Rugova said that if contact is established between the Albanian side and the Serbian Government, we will inform you of this at the right time.

TANJUG's journalist asked whether Dr. Rugova was prepared to be flexible, if the Serbian side makes an offer. Dr. Rugova said that our standpoint is well known: We favor every kind of discussion, but it remains to be seen what the other side will offer. We are for every kind of dialogue, but without conditions.

BORBA's journalist asked how the LDK chairman saw the course of events in Kosovo developing in the coming days. Dr. Rugova said that it is difficult to make predictions, but the Albanians will continue to try to solve the situation by political means. With our policies, he said, we have so far won people's trust, but if it continues to be impossible to achieve anything by political means, it is hard to foresee a peaceful development of the situation.

The BOTA E RE journalist asked what the LDK thinks of the referendum in Macedonia. Dr. Rugova said that the LDK supports the stand of the two Albanian political parties in Macedonia and the demands of the Albanians there. Whether the Albanians in Macedonia take part in the referendum depends on whether the government and parliament of Macedonia meet their conditions. The Albanians themselves and their political parties will decide this best.

The correspondent of FLAKA E VELLAZERIMIT asked how the LDK chairman would comment on the stand taken by De Michelis on the election of legitimate representatives from Kosovo and Vojvodina to the SFRY Presidency. Dr. Rugova replied that De Michelis and others now understand the games in the Yugoslav Presidency and realize that Kosovo has no legitimate representative. We ask De Michelis and others, Dr. Rugova said, to enable us also to have our legitimate representative in the federation, because the Serbian representative, a certain Sejdo Bajramovic, has no right to speak on behalf of the Albanians or even of the rest of the population of Kosovo.

Among many other questions, it is worth singling out one asking who was elected as chairman of the Coordinating Council of the Albanian Political Parties in Yugoslavia. Dr. Ibrahim Rugova replied that the LDK chairman had been elected to this office also.

Kostic: Bosnia Muslims Hold Key to Crisis

LD1009223791 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2005 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Valjevo, 10 Sep (Tanjug)—It is hard to expect any settlement of the Yugoslav crisis unless the Croatian Democratic Community [HDZ] accepts the fact that the formation of an independent Croatian state cannot be realized without recognizing the same right for the Serbian nation in Croatia.

This was stated in Valjevo this evening by Branko Kostic, vice president of the SFRY Presidency, at a public meeting on the "Ways of Resolving the Yugoslav Crisis" organized by the municipal committee of the Socialist Party of Serbia. Speaking about the causes

behind the Yugoslav crisis, he stressed that the League of Communists could not find enough strength to resolve mounting problems in our social development and that the only option left was to mobilize the masses. Tribute for this goes to the League of Communists of Serbia and Slobodan Milosevic. According to Kostic, in Serbia the League of Communists is strong enough to change and transform itself and to replace a totalitarian regime with a democratic society.

The League of Communists in both Slovenia and Croatia failed in this, Kostic added, because it strayed into nationalist waters and sided with the extreme right. It practically handed over power on a plate to right-wing organizations, replacing one totalitarian regime with another. That is why today there is more democracy in both the Assembly and the media in Belgrade than in Zagreb, Kostic said.

What has been happening and is happening in Belgrade today is simply impossible in Zagreb, he said. The wish of the ruling HDZ to set up an independent Croatian state and to expel the Serbian people from the Croatian constitution was bound to lead to a general conflict. The biggest HDZ mistake was to have underestimated the Serbian national question, and the second was that, having been encouraged to secessionism from outside, it also expected outside recognition; and it also underestimated the integration processes in Europe. Everything that happened afterwards is a consequence of these major oversights, and the ruling party in Croatia ended up in an impasse, Kostic said.

Having made the assessment that Slovenia and Croatia's propaganda strategy had been prepared for years and that, to begin with, it had produced good results, Kostic expressed his conviction that the truth about the essence of the conflict in Yugoslavia is increasingly filtering into Europe, as testified by the fact that the EC has accepted the Serbian people in Croatia as a party in conflict. It is being increasingly understood, stressed Dr Kostic, that the Serbian people in Croatia are no greater traitors in relation to the Croatian constitution than the current Croatian authorities are in relation to the Yugoslav Constitution.

Answering a question on whether Ante Markovic and the Federal Executive Council are working without reference to the SFRY Presidency, Dr. Kostic replied in the positive, but he stressed that, objectively speaking, one has to ask the question: What would we as a country gain by bringing down the government, seeing that we do not have legislative rule? One of the questions referred to the role of the Muslims in the solution of the Yugoslav crisis, and Dr. Kostic's answer to that was that his conviction is that the key is held precisely by the Muslims in Bosnia. If there is no clash between the Muslims and Serbs in Bosnia, he stressed, there is hope for a peaceful solution of the Yugoslav crisis. Conversely, a general war would ensue with dramatic consequences.

What happened with Martic, said Kostic, is merely an attempt to shift the conflict from Croatia to Bosnia. However, I think that the Muslims in Bosnia will find more interest in life together [with the Serbs] than in bloodletting with the Serbs. Answering, in conclusion, a question on whether the situation in Croatia would change if Tudjman were to leave, Dr. Kostic said that what Tudjman has done and what he has brought about is very tragic. However, both he and Mesic are the calmer elements of the HDZ. Imagine what would happen if their places were to be taken by someone else, Dr. Branko Kostic wondered, in conclusion.

Kosovo Protests to Executive Council President

LD1009224291 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1501 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Pristina, 10 Sep (TANJUG)—The Presidency of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo [Demokratski Savez Kosova] has sent a telegram to the president of the Federal Executive Council [FEC], the federal secretary of justice, and the public which states that "the repression by the Serbian authorities in Kosovo is constantly escalating and that, in the last few days, it has been primarily directed against the activity of the democratic Albanian opposition and the activity and activists of Albanian political parties."

The telegram states that "the police are banning and disrupting Albanian cultural and political activities; calling people in for 'informal talks'; arresting, mistreating, and imprisoning activists of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo and other political parties; creating an atmosphere of pressure; and preventing the political work of Albanians."

The Presidency of the Democratic Alliance of Kosovo lists several examples of the above and once again protests and points out—as it says—"all the danger emanating from this escalating violence in Kosovo."

'Strong Mortar Fire' Opened on Army Unit

LD1009204491 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1932 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, 10 Sep (TANJUG)—The information service of the command of the First Army District announces that, at 2000 this evening, forces of the National Guard Corps and of the Internal Affairs Ministry of the Republic of Croatia opened strong mortar fire on a Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] unit stationed in Bijelo Brdo near Osijek. The fire was opened from the neighboring village of Sarvas, the statement says.

The YPA unit returned the fire. There are no casualties among the YPA personnel. No damage was caused to either technical equipment or weapons.

Heavy Fighting Continues Around Okucani

LD1009175291 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1429 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Okucani, Bosanska Gradiska, Sept 10 (TANJUG)—Fierce fighting continues today between the

armed formations of the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia and the Territorial Defence units of the Serbian population in the area of Okucani, a town in western Slavonia, eastern Croatia.

The Okucani headquarters of the Serbian Territorial Defence units said today that two members of the Territorial Defence and one 70- year resident were killed in yesterday's clashes with the Croatian forces in a village near Okucani.

Contradictory reports from the field set out, however, that at least seven civilians were killed in the fighting, that the Croatian forces set fire to houses in Serbian villages and that the population in some villages fled to the neighboring Republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Croatian radio, invoking crisis headquarters of Croatian armed forces in Okucani, reported that Croatian losses in the region of Okucani from August 18 to date stands at eight dead and 109 wounded.

Shooting from the region of Slavonia at the bordering territory of northern Bosnia-Hercegovina is a daily occurrance, and for this reason a part of the Territorial Defence units in this area has been engaged.

Some villages in northern Bosnia-Hercegovina are organizing daily guards to protect the villages as some members of the Croatian Interior Ministry are acting illegally in this area, having already committed several acts of sabotage, including mining facilities belonging to Serbs.

Arrests, Gunfire Reported in Pristina Protest

AU1009190191 Tirana Radio Tirana Network in Albanian 1800 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] According to reports from Pristina, tens of thousands of Albanians gathered this afternoon in front of the Pristina University Philosophy Faculty in response to the call of the Naim Frasheri Association of Albanian Teachers to protest the draconian measures of the Serbian authorities in abolishing Albanian schools and the continuing discrimination against the Albanians of Kosovo. The gathering began in front of the Xhevdet Doda Secondary School, where demonstrators met the resistance of the Serbian militia and special forces, which made efforts to disperse them using truncheons, the butts of automatic rifles, and tear gas.

Meanwhile, thousands of others passed through the streets of Pristina and filled the square in front of the Philosophy Faculty. After an ultimatum by the Serbian police, the crowd began to disperse, a report from Pristina states. However, the Serbian police intervened, mercilessly beating the elderly, women, and everyone in their way. It is also reported that there were arrests and that a young man was wounded in the volleys of militia gunfire.

SPS Leader: Fight is Over Self-Determination

LD1009222191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1917 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Cacak, 10 September (TANJUG) —Serbia is not prepared to deprive others of their territory, but neither can it turn a blind eye to the future of 3 million Serbs living in Yugoslavia outside its borders. The Serbian people in Croatia are fighting today to get only what they are not denying to the Croats—the right to self-determination.

This was said by the vice president of the Serbian Socialist Party [SPS], Dr. Bogdan Trifunovic, during his talks tonight with members of the SPS [Cacak] municipal committee and with chairmen of this party's local committees in this area. Speaking of the imminent municipal elections in Serbia, Trifunovic expressed his conviction that the citizens will trust the SPS more than other parties, although the ruling party has not fulfilled all the promises it made on the eve of the elections last December.

Croatian Forces Surrounded by Serbs at Kostajnica

LD1009220191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2048 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Zagreb, Kostajnica, September 10 (TANJUG)—The area around Kostajnica in south-eastern part of the Yugoslav Republic of Croatia was all day today a scene of fierce fighting between Croatian armed formations and the territorial defence of the Serb population in the region.

As reported by TANJUG's correspondent, Croatian police and members of the National Guard are still surrounded in central Kostajnica, near the bridge over the River Una which separates Croatia from the neighbouring republic of Bosnia-Hercegovina.

Serbian sources in Kostajnica estimate that between 500 and 1,000 policemen and members of the National Guard are surrounded in Kostajnica.

The Croatian forces are trying to send them reinforcement but cannot break the encirclement, strongly held by the territorial forces.

In its afternoon programme, Croatian Radio declined to give more details about the clashes in Kostajnica, saying only that the fighting was going on.

Croatian Radio also reported about fierce fighting near Okucani but said no more than that "the attackers are surrounded."

Traffic on the Belgrade-Zagreb highway and the same railway route are still interrupted on the section near Okucani, a town in western Slavonia, eastern Croatia.

Fighting is also going on in the area of Gospic in south-western part of Croatia. The town's outskirts are in rubbles. Four policemen and four civilians were killed there—said Croatian Radio.

Croatian radio said that in the area of Petrinja, "the fifth column is active, trying to force the population out of the area."

The radio did not specify to whom the expression the "fifth column" refers or the nationality of the population forced out.

The expression has been increasingly used over the past few days in Osijek, central Slavonia. Sources close to Serbs in eastern Slavonia believe that involved are "members of the National Guard who have rebelled."

Osijek was again this afternoon under mortar fire but the situation is peaceful this evening.

Croatian Radio claims that the fire came from Baranja, which is controlled by the Serbian territorial defence, and that one civilian was killed.

Serbian sources in Baranja claim that a ceasefire agreement was reached through mediation of the Yugoslav Army but that the Croatian forces this evening launched a mortar attack from Osijek on Baranja villages.

Shooting, Explosions Reported in Osijek

AU1109073091 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 0700 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] There was some shooting again last night in Croatia at places where hostilities have occurred and some people were killed and some wounded. In Osijek, in [word indistinct] several explosions were heard in the vicinity of an Army facility. One civilian was killed in Vukovar.

Croatian Television reports that two members of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the National Guard Corps were killed and 18 wounded in clashes around Okucani.

Tvrda Clinic Damaged in 11 Sep Attack

LD1109091191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0734 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Belgrade, 11 Sep (TANJUG)—An attack on the garrison clinic in the Osijek quarters of Tvrda was repeated this morning at around 0500 [0300 GMT]. Unlike yesterday, when armed members of the Croatian Democratic Community only opened gunfire, this morning handheld launchers were used.

The clinic has been damaged considerably and the clinic head's office was demolished, the first army district command's information service reports.

Krajina Minister Reports on Fighting in Jasenice

LD1109090991 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0807 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Knin, 11 Sep (TANJUG)—Fierce fighting started in the municipality of Obrovac around 0600 [0400 GMT] this morning. According to Milan Martic, the minister of internal affairs of Krajina, members of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Croatian National Guard Corps opened fire from the villages of Krusevo and Jasenice.

Martic said that the Croatian armed forces opened fire on Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] positions in the area of Glinica factory near Obrovac.

We replied fiercely, Martic said, and now the other side is asking for truce, which it always does when it finds itself in an inconvenient position. However, Martic continued, forces of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Croatian National Guard Corps always use the truce to bring in fresh forces and additional supplies of weapons and ammunition. According to him, the same was done recently in the area of the Skradin hinterland. Instead of withdrawing, Martic said, as was agreed during negotiations, Croatian armed forces were noticed to be concentrating there. YPA members were drawn into the fighting around Obrovac, but only after their positions had been attacked with strong mortar fire.

One Killed, Five Wounded in Attack on Obravac

LD1109122191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0853 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Knin, 11 Sep (TANJUG)—According to a statement by the Presidency of the Municipal Assembly of Obrovac, forces of the Croatian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Croatian National Guard Corps suddenly opened mortar fire on Obrovac from the direction of the Croatian villages of Jasenice and Krusevo at 0630 [0430 GMT] this morning.

The statement also says that Yugoslav People's Army [YPA] forces providing a buffer zone were also attacked and one YPA member sustained slight injuries.

An 85-year-old woman was killed and three other people and two children were wounded in the attack on Obrovac this morning.

Continuing Clashes Reported in Croatia 10 Sep

LD1109123191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 0914 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Text] Zagreb, Osijek, Sept 11 (TANJUG)—Fierce machine gun fire was exchanged between the Serbian village of Bijelo Brdo and the village of Sarvas, where powerful Croatian Guard and police forces are stationed, for nearly four hours last night.

The two villages are around 15 kilometers east of Osijek.

A Yugoslav People's Army unit is stationed in Bijelo Brdo.

Military sources said the clash began after fire was opened on Bijelo Brdo from the direction of Sarvas.

According to Croatian radio reports this morning, artillery and mortar fire was opened on Sarvas and the

industrial zone in Osijek from the direction of Bijelo Brdo. The radio did not report losses.

The command of the Osijek garrison said rifle grenades were fired at and damaged the military clinic in the city center last night. There were no casualties.

The military clinic in Osijek was also attacked yesterday from automatic weapons.

The Vukovar area was relatively calm last night and this morning, with sporadic shooting and explosions.

Croatian radio said this morning that "Croatian defence forces are destroying and driving back the renegades from the Gospic area," in the region of Lika. It said heavy fighting took place last night near the village of Zabica and Jasikovac in the vicinity of the town.

Serbian sources did not confirm the reports on the battle near Gospic. Belgrade radio in its morning news also made no mention of larger-scale clashes in that part of Croatia.

Fighting for Hrvatska Kostajnica continues. Serbian territorial defence forces have encircled Croatian Guardsmen and policemen in the very center of the town.

Croatian radio said Croatian forces had repelled another attack.

There is shooting in the vicinity of Okucani also, but, judging by reports from the field this morning, there were no larger-scale clashes.

The Belgrade-Zagreb highway is still closed to traffic near Okucani, as is the railroad on that route.

Fighting Continues in Krajina Despite Peace Plans

AU1109132691 Belgrade Radio Belgrade Network in Serbo-Croatian 1300 GMT 11 Sep 91

[Milos Rajkovic report]

[Text] The war in the border areas of the Serbian Autonomous Region of Krajina is continuing with the same intensity, regardless of all current peace initiatives.

This morning at about 0630 [0430 GMT], strong forces of the Corps of the National Guard and the [Croatian] Ministry of Internal Affairs started an attack on Obrovac from the direction of the village of Jasenice and Krusevo. The fighting is still going on and material damage is substantial.

One old woman was killed. She was in her house not very far from the assembly building, which was the main target of the attack. Five other persons were wounded. Two of them are children.

The Croatian fighters also attacked the unit of the Yugoslav People's Army stationed in the buffer zone not far from Obrovac. One soldier was wounded. The Presidium of the Obrovac Assembly Commune issued a communique and an appeal to the public in which it states that the population of this Krajina commune rightly expects help from the Yugoslav People's Army.

The majority of the inhabitants of Obrovac have been evacuated. Telephone lines [words indistinct] and traveling on local roads is extremely risky.

Bosnia-Hercegovina

Serbian Militiamen Quit Bosnia Post

LD1009174491 Belgrade Tanjug Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1328 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Bosanska Krupa, 10 September (TANJUG)—Lazo Stupar, commander of the militia station in Bosanska Krupa, and 10 militiamen who are Serbian nationals have left Bosanska Krupa and come to Jesenica, under Mount Grmec. The result is that the militia station in Bosanska Krupa is now staffed by Muslim nationals alone. This was reported by the municipal committee of the Serbian Democratic party [Srpska Demokratska Stranka—SDS] to the Bosnia - Hercegovina Ministry of Internal Affairs; Radovan Karadzic, chairman of the SDS in Bosnia - Hercegovina; and Momcilo Krajisnik, president of the assembly of Bosnia - Hercegovina.

The SDS municipal committee reported today that the militiamen who are Serbian nationals decided to take this step because they wish to avoid a direct clash between the militia reservists and those who received the arms yesterday but are not reserve militiamen. They said that they will not return to their home station until all the weapons distributed to the Muslims yesterday have been returned.

Call for Croatian Self Defense in Bosnia

LD1009160191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1316 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Sarajevo, Sept 10 (TANJUG)—The Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) has made a programme for self-defence of the Croatian people in the republic of Bosnia-Herzegovina, as HDZ president Stjepan Kljujic told the press today.

The immediate reason for the "Self-organization" of Croats is an "anti-Croatian atmosphere prevailing in Sarajevo and Bosnia- Herzegovina," Kljujic explained. Proof of this can be found in "negative propaganda in media," Kljujic said, adding that the HDZ would therefore ask for its own television channel and would issue its own newspapers.

The HDZ will also demand that two representatives of the Serbian Democratic Party (SDS), whose mandates have been frozen, be dismissed from the republican presidency, as well as the republican deputy prime minister and deputy interior minister (both Serbs), Kljujic said.

Serb representatives froze their mandates in the Bosnia-Herzegovina Presidency in August, demanding that changes be made in the presidency's existing rules of procedure, which was adopted during the former one-party system, because, as they said, it enables outvoting by two members of the coalition at the detriment of the third.

Croats account for around 17 percent of Bosnia-Herzegovina's population, composed also of Muslims (43 percent) and Serbs (32 percent). The republic is ruled by a coalition of the national parties of the three peoples.

Macedonia

'Official' Referendum Results Released

LD1009190291 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1817 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Skopje, 10 September (TANJUG)—According to official results released by a republican commission on the 8 September referendum, in which citizens expressed their views on whether they were in favor of a sovereign and independent Macedonia with the right to join a union of independent states of Yugoslavia at a later stage, of those who cast their vote, 95.09 replied to the answer positively.

Out of a total of 1,495,626 registered voters, 1,074,658, or 71.85 percent of the electorate, took part in the referendum. Over 99 percent of the citizens who voted in Berovo and Bitola said "yes," while this percentage, as reported, was the lowest in Kumanovo, i.e. 66.98 percent. It was reported that by the time the final results of the referendum were published, the republican commission had not received a single report on noncompliance with the legality of the referendum carried out among the citizens of Macedonia.

Dailies Say Macedonia Not Seceding

LD1009191291 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1802 GMT 10 Sep 91

[Text] Skopje, Sept 10 (TANJUG)—'After the referendum, the Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia is not seceding from Yugoslavia. On the contrary, it is opening the door wide to all those who wish a calm and secure life,'—the NOVA MAKEDONIJA daily writes today.

The paper, published in the Macedonian capital, stresses that Macedonia does not have any territorial claims and that 'it will only insist on the respect of human rights of Macedonians in other countries.'

The Skopje daily VECER describes as 'ultimate hypocrisy' the behaviour of the leaders of the Democratic Prosperity Party (PDP) rallying ethnic Albanians, who said that they 'respect the sovereignty and independence of Macedonia' but called on ethnic Albanians to boycot the referendum.

The paper notes that the institutions of the Macedonian state can no longer count on the loyalty of ethnic Albanians, and that 'possibilities should not be ruled out for the state to step up repressive measures towards the Albanian minority in Macedonia if the PDP seek the answers to its dilemmas in agression and if a scenario of an all-Albanian referendum become reality.

New Independent Paper Begins Publication

LD1009211191 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1627 GMT 9 Sep 91

[Summary] Skopje, 9 September (TANJUG)—Starting today another daily paper is coming out on a regular basis in Macedonia: REPUBLIKA. It is the first independent daily in Macedonia.